

why when they had the ground surveyed that
they found but little timber only what
was in the mountains—

Saturday 23rd We went a short distance
to a small grove and called it B. B. Call
called the Camp together & measure was
entered into for planting in some potato
tubers, corn, bush wheat, turnips &c.
Some were started and some planting
done that day. We found the soil to be light
and the air hard and that we were
out of the reach of our enemies and that
the country was well watered with good
water and that God had blessed us on
our journey & many more of us
had died yet there that had been sick
was nearly about well—
According to our measure we were
114 miles from St. Bridget and from St.
John & 12 and about 1000 miles from
Saint Quentin

Saturday 24th About noon B. B. Young
and the remainder of the Camp came up
which gave us much joy and we
had a time of rejoicing together.

Sunday 25th We had a meeting
and much good instruction was given.
B. B. Young said that we should find
a place for a permanent location, we
would then have some land set off to us
and each one manage his own affairs
and work for themselves &c.

We had men out every day exploring
the country and it was found that
there was large amounts of timber
in the mountains. The some of it
was hard to get at. The timber
was oak, ash, balsam &c. Some
mountains near by have plenty of
iron on the tops at this time

July 26th & 27th The farming and other
business was continued—

July 28th This day I am fifty years
old. I have seen many hard things
in my day, yet I have been greatly
blessed of the Lord for I have seen and
my heart has been brought to believe
the fulness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ
which thing has brought me to this
place where I trust that we can work
in peace & establish his Kingdom—

In my past life I have been in
many weaknesses and failures. In for
all my iniquities I ask my Heavenly
Father in the name of Jesus to forgive
me and to lengthen out my days for many
years and enable me to spend them all
in his service that I may receive every
blessing that is my privilege to enjoy.
And I ask him to best all my connec-
tion and my family with full salvation
both temporal and spiritual and to the
Presidency of his Church as they stand
in need together with the other converts
and all Israel across where and hasten
the time that Israel shall be gathered
home and the Lamanites come to an
understanding of the plan of salvation
and Zion be built up no more
to be thrown down and the blood of
the masters Joseph & Hiram and
the blood of all the mountain darlings
be avenged on the the head of this
wicked generation. These and all other
blessings that is necessary for the Kingdom of God
I ask in the name of Jesus amen. Levi Jackson



Levi Jackman's Journal

Autobiography 1797-1844

Journal 1847-1849

Levi Jackman 1797-1876

A Sketch Of The Life Of Levi Jackman

In the foregoing I design to give a short sketch of my life, not to gratify the curiosity of the curious, but for the satisfaction of my children and friends after my departure from this life; to leave for the perusal, a sketch of their lives. I labor under the inconvenience of a poor education, but expect suitable allowance will be made for that defect and receive this little work for what it was intended. I am now almost fifty-four years of age, and I expect in a few years to go the way of all the earth, and now commence this work as one of the last and important duties of my life.

July, 28 1797

I was born in the state of Vermont, Orange County, town of Virshier, on the 28th day of July, 1797. My father's name was Moses French Jackman. My mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Carr. I know but little of my grandparents, only what I obtained from my mother when I was quite young. She informed me that my Grandfather Jackman and his two brothers came from England at an early date, and were all Baptist Deacons. My father was put to a shoemaker's trade when a boy in old Salisbury, state of Massachusetts, in which place my mother lived. My Grandfather Carr was a seafaring man and died in the city of New York, of a yellow fever at an early age. I have no knowledge of the death of either of the others of my grandparents. My mother was born about the year 1750 or 1760. I think my father was a little the youngest.

July 7, 1797

Soon after they were married, my father moved to the state of Vermont. My mother had five boys as follows: Daniel, Moses French, James Rayerdon, William, and myself, Levi. They had no girls. My father was killed by the fall of a tree on July 7, 1797, three weeks before I was born. He was a man of almost unexampled piety, and

his death was much lamented by all who knew him. I was born July 28, 1797. The next winter my Uncle Levi took my brother Moses and kept him till he was twenty years old.

March, 26 1810

My mother had a hard time to provide for her family while they were young. In February, 1810, we moved to the state of New York; arrived at Batavia on the 26th of March and in the fore-part of April went on a piece of land that we had selected for our home. The country was entirely new, and game such as bear, deer, wolf, etc., was plentiful. At that season the earth was covered with herbage and blossoms of every variety. The scenery was truly delightful, but the flood of immigration soon changed the appearance of things. Soon after our arrival, my mother had a cancer in her breast which terminated her days about the 20th of September, 1819. She was one of the best mothers, and spared no pains to bring up her children in way they should go.

November, 13 1817

On the 13th day of November, 1817, I married a wife by the name of Angeline Myers. This was in the town of Alexander, Genesee County, and the place where we first stopped when we came to the county. My wife, when I married her, had a son by the name of Albert Brady. He was then about four years old. We afterwards called him by my name. We had five children as follows: William was born October 6, 1818. Aurelia was born September 20, 1820. Parmenio was born August 6, 1822. Ammi was born February 6, 1825. The next was a boy, Levi Myers, born May 2, 1828, but he lived only about two hours.

May, 4 1831

In the year 1830, we moved to the Ohio Portage County. The next winter Joseph Smith and others came to that country with the Book

of Mormon, and bore testimony to its truth, etc. After a fair investigation I believed it, and embraced it. On the 4th day of May, 1831, my wife and her mother were baptized. On the 7th I was baptized. Harvey Whitlock baptized us and many more in that place. A few days after this I was ordained an elder by Oliver Cowdery. This season Joseph Smith with about twenty elders went to the west part of the state of Missouri to find location for the saints. They returned the next fall after having picked on Jackson County for the place. This season a few families moved to the place. The work spread with much power and signs followed the preaching of the work, and very many received it. In November, at a conference, I was ordained a high priest with many others. It was decided that as many as could (with few exceptions) should move west the next spring. Wishing to see some of my brothers who lived in Pennsylvania before I went west, I started in March, in company with Peter Whitmer, to see them. The first evening after we arrived at my brothers in Columbus, we attended a Methodist meeting and were invited to preach. It was new work to us, but we did the best we could. When we were through we were opposed, and abused by their leader. We were invited to preach the next evening in a school house in another part of town. At the appointed time we went to the place. The house was full. A stand with a lamp and candle burned on it, with two chairs to point the place for us. If ever I felt small it was at that time. Brother Porter testified to the Book of Mormon, made a few remarks and sat down. I found good liberty in speaking, and the people did honor to the name of gentlemen and ladies, and I hope some good will result from the interview. We soon returned home. Persecution had already commenced in this place. Early in the spring, [at Hiram, Ohio] Joseph Smith and Sydney [Sidney] Rigdon were taken from their beds, and dragged on the ground for some distance. Joseph was taken near half a mile and beaten till he was left for dead.

May, 2 1832

On the 2nd of May, 1832, I started with a company of near one hundred for the west, and arrived at Bever, on the Ohio River, on the 6th. We chartered the steamboat, Messenger, and started down the

Ohio on the evening of the 7th, and arrived at St. Louis on the 14th. We left St. Louis by land on the 20th, after shipping a part of our goods for Chariton. The teams arrived at that place on the 7th of June. At this place, Brother Shanks and myself and families had to stop for want of teams. I soon went to Jackson County, a distance of 110 miles, and got teams and we started on the first day of August, and arrived at Independence on the 14th. In a day or two we went to another settlement of the brethren west of Independence about ten miles. This was called the Timber Branch. As a people we now began to enjoy ourselves, supposing that our warfare was ended. A printing press was already in operation; one store; schools were in many places; mechanics and farmers all busily engaged, and everything seemed to promise peace and prosperity. But our hopes were soon blasted. The spirit of slander and persecution soon began to show itself. The mob soon began to hold meetings to take measure against us, and our once clear horizon began to show the gathering of a dreadful storm which was soon to fall on our defenseless heads.

July, 20 1833

On the 20th of July a meeting of from 300 to 400 of the mob gathered at Independence to commence their operations of destruction. They tore down our printing office (a two story brick building), and destroyed most of the contents. They stripped, and tarred and feathered Bishop Partridge and one Allen, and threatened death and destruction to all the saints if they did not leave the country. Some of our leading men, for the sake of a compromise for the present time, agreed for themselves, to leave the country; one half of them by the first of January next and the other half by the first of May and to use their influence to have all the Church do the same, hoping something would turn in our favor before that time. We laid the matter before the Governor, but he had not power to help us. After frequent insults and abuses, they laid a plan to be carried into effect on the evening of the 31st of October. That evening I shall never forget. I had been in bed some time, suspecting no evil, when I was called on by Brother Peck who informed me that the mob was

throwing down houses nearby, in the south part of the settlement. I arose, put on my clothes, and went to the door. The moon was shining in its meridian glory, not a cloud to be seen, not a breeze of wind to disturb the quiet repose of the leaves of the trees. All nature seemed to be hushed into silence to witness a tragedy not often acted on the earth by people who call themselves civilized. A mob party of from 40 to 50, with weapons of death, had come upon our settlement in an hour not looked for, and had commenced throwing down houses, and shamefully beating the men when they could catch them, while the women with their little ones fled to the woods to hide themselves in the brush to save their lives from being taken by the mob. The falling of the logs and boards as they fell to the ground, could be heard quite a distance in the stillness of the night and was well calculated to strike horror to the saints who saw that destruction awaited them. Some fifteen houses were more or less demolished, and some of the men pounded in a shameful manner. The next morning the people sallied forth from their hiding places, and witnessed the destruction of their once happy homes where they had so lately enjoyed the prospect of peace and future prosperity. All hopes of remaining in that country were at an end, and gloom and sorrow were the common lot of all the saints. About this time Brother Golbert's store was broken into by the mob, and many of his goods were strewn about the streets. I shall mention but a few of the particulars of the doings of the mob, because it has been written by abler pens than mine. The brethren that lived in the Timber Branch thought it best for their safety to go some two or three miles to a small branch that lived on the edge of the prairie, where the brethren had a grist mill, and try to save that from the mob. We had been in that place a few days when, on the 4th day of November, 1833, a messenger came in haste and informed us that a mob was at the River Blue; had taken the ferry, and was committing violence on the people which were between the Timber Branch and Independence. David Whitmer, who had charge of the post, took about fifteen men and went to see what was going on, leaving the place in my charge. In two or three hours he returned and said that the mob met them on the way and dispersed his company. Those of us that remained started as fast as possible to learn the fate of our brethren. We

numbered about thirty with fifteen guns. We soon came in sight of the mob in and about Christian Whitmer's house. They numbered about sixty, well armed. They did not discover us till we were within pistol shot, when James Campbell, their leader, called, "There come the Mormons, damn them um, shoot um." A general discharge took place, the mob ran in confusion crying, "Go back, Mormons. Go back, Mormons." They left two of their numbers on the ground. One lawyer by the name of Brazil was killed, one more mortally wounded by the name of Linvill. One of our men by the name of Baber, was mortally wounded. A number of both sides were wounded. It was about sunset, and some thought that we had better stop in an empty house near by, but by my advice as to a place of more safety was to return to the mill. The most of our men felt cheerful and ate their supper and attended to the wounded as though nothing serious had happened. But it was different with me, I could neither eat or sleep. I saw that we were in a situation that nothing but the arm of God could preserve us as we were few in number and surrounded by thousands who waited only for some pretext to cut us all from the face of the earth. I saw that they then had something to start on, and unless the Lord should do something for us, we must all be hewn down by a raging and relentless mob. While thus reflecting on our situation, it was proposed that two or three of us should go to town and see how things were shaping in that quarter. I proposed to go for one. Three of us started and went a back route where it was not inhabited, and got to the place where the brethren lived sometime before day. A scene of horror and destruction presented itself. The news of the battle, much exaggerated, had reached the mob in town. They had seized a number of our men and put them in prison, and were threatening death and destruction to all the Mormons. The leaders of our people were trying to effect some treaty with the leaders of the mob, but it seemed like tempering with demons. The mob made a demand of all our men that were in the battle. This was agreed to for we could not help ourselves. I then expected to be tried for my life by a mob court, and the chance of escape was small. But they altered their minds, and made other arrangements and claimed but seven men as prisoners. Our people were to give up their guns, and leave the country without delay, and they were to protect us from

insults by keeping a guard up to preserve the peace. And they were to charter the ferry for us to cross the river, which they failed to do, as in everything else they had agreed to do. After all the arrangements were made, I started for home. I soon met Lyman Wite [Wight], who hearing of the situation of the brethren in prison, and supposing they would be murdered, had raised all the brethren, about 100, and had started to release them or lay the town in ashes. I informed him of the arrangement, and it was consented to. They gave up fifty-one guns to the mob. When the guns were surrendered, the mob did not dare to take them from the hands of the brethren, but ordered them to stack the guns against the fence from whence they fetched them. I went home in hopes that we should remain undisturbed till we could get away. But in this I was deceived. No sooner were we disarmed, than they, without fear, went from house to house, plundering, whipping and insulting whom and as they pleased, threatening the women and children with death and everything that was calculated to spread horror and dismay through the country where the most of the men were driven away and none to help them. After spending a few days at home getting ready for my departure, I started for town to get some salt. I kept a little from the road to save insults. I happened to fall in with a company of women and children with bundles in their hands, with one wagon and one man. They told me that an armed mob had gone up and threatened to burn them up if they were not gone when they returned, and the little group was making their way for the prairie. The sun was about two hours high. I soon reached the west part of the town where the brethren lived. The whole place was in the utmost confusion. The mob was raging like fiends of darkness, and it was with great difficulty that their head men could keep them from murdering the entire people. At this critical moment the cry of MURDER was heard at a short distance. I said to Brother Sylvester Howlett [Hewlett?] who was standing close to me, that this was no place for us. We started in haste for the woods and soon got into the thick brush, where we would be safe for a short time. It soon became dark and we could not travel as the brush was very thick and no road. We wanted to strike out on the prairie but we could not tell which way south was. We kept on till we struck a trail but did not

know which way to go. We lay down, watched the move of the stars. We then started and soon came out. I had a few hours of deep reflection on our situation. I expected the mob had gone up according to the report of the women I had seen, and what I had since seen and heard confirmed it in my mind that they had gone up to make a general slaughter. I did not really expect to see my family anymore and the appearance was that if we saved our lives it would be by going through the unsettled part of the state of Illinois or St. Louis. We concluded, however, to go on a back trail towards home and see what we could discover. We found some men in a back settlement who informed us that the mob had done no injury only by way of hurrying us off. I then went home and found my family with each a little budget ready to start on my return. But I concluded to wait a few days as I had no team neither did we know where to go as every avenue seemed to be stopped. Attempts were made to go to different counties, but the inhabitants refused us admission, and for a long time it seemed that we must stand still and be murdered all together. But at last we gained admittance into Clay County on the opposite side of the river and by the last of December the brethren were mostly in that county and many without shelter for winter. But as a general thing the people were kind to us. In the summer of 1834, Brother Joseph, with about 100 brethren, arrived from the east to render some assistance to us. He organized the Church in that country and established a high council of which I was appointed a member. Brother Joseph soon returned with the most of those that came with him. Much excitement was occasioned by their arrival among the settlers of the country. A temple was now being built in Kirtland, Ohio and many of the first elders were instructed to go to that place to help on with the work and to preach by the way and I was on of the number. I made my arrangements for going and on the fourth day of May 1835, I took an affectionate farewell of my family and started in company with Brother Calob Baldwin, on foot and without money. We traveled this day, 18 miles and stopped with Brother Sheffield Daniels.

May, 5 1835

Tuesday, May 5 - Breakfasted with Brother Ezekiel Pock, traveled 24 miles to Richmond and stopped with Justice Pooler.

May, 6 1835

Wednesday 6 - Traveled 32 miles through country and stopped with a fine sort of a man by the name of Carey, on the Wackendaw.

May, 7 1835

Thursday 7 - It rained in the night. It was muddy walking this day, we went 45 miles to the Charriton River and stopped with a Brother Nichols.

May, 8 1835

Friday 8 - It had the appearance of a rainy day and stopped and held a meeting with the brethren and baptized two, viz.: A.B. Jackman, and Betsey Ann Fossett. We had a good time and rejoiced together.

May, 9 1835

Saturday 9 - Traveled 32 miles and stopped with one Mr. Kimbo in Randolph County.

May, 10 1835

Sabbath Day, May 10 - This day we had to wade through several of the branches of the Salt River and after traveling 37 miles, arrived at the Salt River Branch of the Church and stopped with Brother I. Allred.

May, 11 1835

Monday, May 11 - We tarried this day with the brethren and found them mostly in good faith and doing well.

May, 12 1835

Tuesday, May 12 - We traveled this day about 27 miles and it was with much difficulty and after a number of trials that we got a chance to stop at any house, but at last was taken in by one Lewis in Pike County. He was a Baptist man. We were used with respect by himself and family.

May, 13 1835

Wednesday, May 13 - This day we went to Bolen Green. Arrived about one o'clock pm, having traveled 15 miles. We stopped with Brother McBride. Four families of the brethren lived in this place. The most of them came together and we spent the remainder of the day and evening in teaching the things of the kingdom of God, and we had a profitable time together.

May, 14 1835

Thursday, May 14 - This day we reached Louisiana at two o'clock pm, a distance of 12 miles. This is a small town on the west bank of the Mississippi River. The ferry is kept at this place by a man by the name of Burnett. After crossing the river we passed through a town by the name of Atless; then passed down along the foot of the bluffs, and stopped with a gentleman by the name of Kurr in Pike County. Traveled this day 24 miles.

May, 15 1835

Friday, May 15 - This day we traveled 20 miles and stopped at Brother A. Holden's in Green County after having crossed the Illinois River at Wagoner's Ferry.

May, 16 1835

Saturday, May 16 - This day we passed through Carilton, the county seat of Green County. After traveling 22 miles we stopped with a brother by the name of Levi Mynick. This man was one of the number that was murdered in the slaughter by the mob at Hawn's Mill, some years later. This was a fine family, and strong in the faith although no other of the same faith lived near them.

May, 17 1835

Sabbath, May 17 - We intended to hold a meeting this day in the school-house, but it was occupied by a Baptist missionary sent from the East under a salary of \$500.00 for preaching every fourth Sabbath in this place. His name was Lemmon. We went to hear him and left an appointment for ourselves for the next day at four o'clock pm at that place.

May, 18 1835

Monday, May 18 - Accordingly we went and behold, Mr. Lemmon was on hand to look to his flock and the fleece. He had not the politeness to offer us a seat. So we took our seat on the back side of the house. We set forth the gospel in its plainness and the necessity of more revelation, etc. And when we had got through, the priest arose and said with zeal, crying out, "Delusion! False Prophets!" He having to assist him a little sheet filled with falsehoods written by the Reverend Mr. [William?] Peck. After he had finished his ungodly remarks, he started off in a hurry not giving us a chance to reply to him. We gave out another appointment for the next Sabbath at twelve.

May, 24 1835

Sabbath, May 24 - It was rainy this morning which prevented meeting till 4p.m. when a few came together. We explained the little

sheet alluded to, and showed the falsehoods it contained. We then preached on the gospel, etc., after which a Methodist Priest attempted to do something but made out but little and sat down. We think that our labor in this place has removed some prejudice from among the honest part of the people.

May, 25 1835

Monday, May 25 - We left our beloved brother, Myrick, and family this morning and traveled on our way. A little before night it had the appearance of a heavy rain. We stopped in a little old cabin, and improved the time in giving the people some idea of our faith, etc. They were attentive and appeared to come to understanding. We traveled this day 24 miles.

May, 26 1835

Tuesday, May 26 - The night had been very rainy and the country being low the trailing was very hard. The rain again descended in torrents. We had to wade considerable of the way, and our umbrellas were of but little use in a heavy storm. We traveled only about six miles this day and stopped with on W.J. Matclean. We spent the remainder of the day in reasoning from the scriptures, etc.

May, 27 1835

Wednesday, May 27 - We traveled but a short distance this day, it being rainy, and stopped with one Turner. In the evening a number of men came in to talk with us. Among them was a Methodist exhorter. He was ignorant and zealous. In our conversation we quoted the sayings of Christ to his apostles in regard to the signs that should follow them that believe. He would not believe that it was in the Bible, and in fact we found many such cases, so great was the ignorance of the people although they professed much wisdom. We tried to get up a meeting, but could not.

May, 28 1835

Thursday, May 28 - We traveled this day thirty miles in the rain and in a low wet country and stopped.

May, 29 1835

Friday, May 29 - This day we passed through Springfield, went 24 miles and stopped with a widow Campbell.

May, 30 1835

Saturday, May 30 - Traveled fifteen miles to a place called flat branch. We found six families of the saints in this place. They were much rejoiced to see us and we none the less to see them for we needed some rest and repose being rather worn down.

May, 31 1835

Sabbath, May 31 - We held a meeting with the saints and had a refreshing season. They seemed to enjoy much of the spirit of the Lord and strong faith in the gospel. Brothers A. Smith and E. Miller said they would go a day or two with us on our journey if we would stay until Wednesday. We did so and had our clothes washed.

June, 3 1835

Wednesday, June 3 - The country before us was low and many streams to cross and the morning being rainy we concluded to stop another day. We held a meeting in the afternoon. The spirit of the Lord was poured out upon us in an uncommon manner. The spirit manifested to me that they were prepared to be sealed up unto eternal life which when I proclaimed to them the spirit fell on us all as it were like a refiner's fire, to a greater degree than I had ever before experienced.

June, 4 1835

Thursday, June 4, 1835 - We all started on in the morning and went about 25 miles through wet land and waded many ponds and creeks of deep water. Brother Miller preached that evening to a few of the neighbors that came in. Brother Smith and Baldwin followed him. They paid good attention and appeared to have good feelings. This was in Shelby County.

June, 5 1835

Friday, June 5 - This day we traveled about 18 miles and stopped with a Mr. Runalds.

June, 6 1835

Saturday June 6 - We tried to get a chance to preach but could not. We took dinner with a fine, friendly man by the name of Armon Trout. We stopped overnight with Wm. [William] G. Haden, Esq. He appeared at first to be jealous of us but after talking with him on the subject of our faith, he became very friendly and seemed almost loath to part with us in the morning, for his prejudices were removed from his mind.

June, 7 1835

Sabbath, June 7 - We could get no chance to preach but we stopped in houses and taught the people in their families and so spent the day traveling about 13 miles. We stopped with one Marten. They gave us supper and lodging but not breakfast. They were hard unbelieving people and like many others requested a sign to make them believers. We preached to them a while and left them.

June, 8 1835

Monday, June 8 - We went a short distance and took breakfast with one Guymon. He was a Baptist. He treated us kindly and gave good attention to our teaching. The roads were very muddy as usual. We struck the Terrehute Road and took dinner with one Shoats. He treated us kindly. At this place, we parted with Brothers Smith and Miller. They were good faithful brethren. We traveled this day about 18 miles and stopped with one Terrice in Edgar County. He treated us with civility but required pay for our victuals. We gave him a pair of slippers and he paid us back 25 cents.

June, 9 1835

Tuesday, June 9 - Passed through a small town by the name of Grandview; thence through Parie, the county seat of Edgar. About five miles from this, we found Brother Thomas Guymon. He was glad to see us. He was the only one that belonged to the Church in that country. He had been baptized by Brother Rathburn, some years previous. A number of elders had preached in that place and baptized only two and one of them was then gone. Brother Guymon invited us to preach. He said the people desired to hear more of our doctrine. It seemed hard for me to undertake to preach where smart elders had labored so much with so little success. Yet we considered it our duty to do so if they required it of us and leave the effect with God. We gave an appointment for the next day at 12 o'clock.

June, 10 1835

Wednesday, June 10 - According to appointment the people came together and gave good attention and desired us to preach again the next day at one o'clock. We consented. We were invited home with one Wm. [William] Hanks. He was quite believing from what he had already heard.

June, 11 1835

Thursday, June 11 - About thirty people came together. They gave good attention and wished to hear more. By this time a number became quite convinced of the truth of what we preached but were not ready to obey. Feeling anxious for their good we gave out an appointment for the next Sabbath. Thus far, we had not been persecuted and we had been blessed with good liberty, in preaching. A man by the name of Nelson Nunley, invited us home with him on Friday night. He was a representative from Edgar County, and is a fine, smart man and very believing.

June, 14 1835

Sabbath, June 14 - A large company came together the most of them were much delighted with the doctrine we preached. A Baptist Priest came also. After preaching was over and the people were dispersing, he endeavored to sour the minds of some out of doors by telling them that all the prophecies were fulfilled and that we had preached lies to them but he could not make the people believe it and he injured himself by trying to injure us and by fighting against the truth.

June, 15 1835

Monday, June 15 - As no one proposed to be baptized, we informed the people that there was no use in our staying any longer. After breakfast we started leaving, the most of them in tears. We had not gone far before some of the men overtook us and went with us to the neighbors and shortly after, their wives followed them. They wished that we should stop and preach the next day, which we agreed to.

June, 16 1835

Tuesday, June 16 - The people came from 6 to 8 miles to hear us and payed good attention and many were cut to the heart and desired to be baptized. We went in the water and baptized, while others wept aloud.

June, 18 1835

Thursday, June 18 - In the afternoon, we met for a confirmation meeting. The names of those that were baptized and confirmed were: Gabriel Taylor, Delila Taylor, Polley Roads and Sarah Guymon. (Thus far I have written; Stopped for a season. I commence writing again in December, 1867. I am now a little over 70 years of age.)

June, 21 1835

Sabbath, June 21 - Held meeting at Brother Hank's. Had a large and attentive congregation. After meeting, the brethren made choice of Brother Thomas Guymon, for their leader, and I ordained him a priest.

June, 22 1835

Monday, June 22 - Visited several of the neighbors and found many of them believing.

June, 23 1835

Tuesday, June 23 - Held a meeting at 5 o'clock p.m. and six more concluded to obey the gospel, namely: Thomas Rhodes, and his wife Elizabeth, Polley Hanks, Sarah Alley, Jane Savage, and Sarah Vervil. Thus, the work of the Lord began to work among them.

June, 24 1835

Wednesday, June 24 - Went out about five miles to visit a man by the name of Thomas Hickley.

June, 25 1835

Thursday, June 25 - Held a meeting at his house at four o'clock p.m. From thirty to forty people attended and gave good attention. (The 26th and 27th we spent in visiting the people and writing letters.)

June, 28 1835

Sabbath, June 28 - Held a meeting at Brother Hank's house. A large number collected. Brother Baldwin spoke first and I followed. We had good liberty in speaking. The most of them gave good attention. Some few would laugh and make fun out of what we said. Many believed what we said, except the new book, yet one by the name of Peter Savage believed and wished to obey. Some stayed after meeting for the purpose of contention, but they had it among themselves. After meeting we went home with Thomas M. Tade. He and his were believing. She was a sickly woman and had not been able to do her work for fourteen years, only a small part of the time. The next Monday, June 29, she wished me to pray for her and lay hands on her, which I did. She received a portion of the spirit, and felt much comforted and soon began to mend. We found some that believed what we preached, but could not feel themselves worthy to be baptized, thinking they must become saints in the place, but we soon convinced them that repentance came before perfection.

July, 3 1835

Friday, July 3 - At four o'clock p.m. we held a meeting to confirm those that had last been baptized. Many others that were present were convinced of the truth, but still kept back. Among those was one old lady by the name of Elizabeth O'Hara. After spending sleepless night, she came the next morning and desired to be baptized. We appointed a meeting at five p.m., Saturday, July 4th, and we ordained Thomas Rhodes an elder. By this time the devil became angry, and some of his servants begin to threaten us with violence. But we thought it best for us to do our duty, and run the risk of the results, which we endeavored to do and trust in God for his

aid. Accordingly we went and baptized Sarah Fannen, a young woman, and Mary Williams.

July, 5 1835

Sabbath, July 5 - We met for teaching, confirming, and breaking bread, etc. There was a large collection of people and we spent some time in speaking to them and then attended to the other duties, after which three more concluded to be baptized, namely: Thomas N. Tade, Amelia Tade, his wife, and Dulsina Ringo. After that we had a controversy with our old enemy, the Baptist priest, and when we found that he desired darkness rather than light, Brother Baldwin warned him to repent and prophesied that he would be rejected by his flock and would finally die, a poor miserable being; all of which was fulfilled within a few years after, as I was informed by his daughter when I visited that place in the summer of 1844. We met again after candlelight expecting that would be the last time that we should meet with them, as we intended to start the next day. Those that had been baptized last were confirmed. We gave such instructions as we thought proper, and dismissed.

July, 6 1835

Monday, July 6 - They so loathed to let us go, we concluded to stop one day longer and meet again. That evening we spent among the saints. We met according to appointment and John Lawson and Parmelia, his wife, were baptized. We had a time of rejoicing and the most of them wept like children. I thought of the last meeting that Paul had with some of the saints, when he told them that they would see his face no more. It was truly a trying time for us all. It was like parents and children taking a last long farewell of each other. A number stayed all night so loath they were to leave us.

July, 7 1835

Tuesday, July 7 - This morning we baptized a young woman by the name of Nancy Hill. We then started on, leaving many in tears. This day we traveled about 21 miles and stopped with Brother Daniel Shearer in Indiana.

July, 8 1835

Wednesday, July 8 - This day we found the people hardhearted, and it was with difficulty that we got a chance to stay with anyone. We finally stopped with one Elisha Harrison. He did not say much, but she was a hard case. In the morning we paid them seventy-five cents and went on.

July, 9 1835

Thursday, July 9 - We found the people this day as those yesterday. We had thought of the comforts of home and the loved ones we had so lately left behind. They would neither feed us nor hear us preach. We finally got a chance to sleep in a house, but could get nothing to eat. This was on the west margin of the city in Indianapolis, Indiana.

July, 10 1835

Friday, July 10 - We had six cents left with which we bought some bread which we ate for breakfast. We thought this to be a hard country for disciples. We stopped about noon, however, where they were about sitting down to dinner. They invited us to eat, which we did. They did not appear to have any regard for religion, but we felt to thank God and them for the kindness they bestowed on us. We stopped at a tavern, that night, kept by a man by the name of Woods in the town of Charlotville. We had to pay them out of money that was sent by us for Papers. At this place we were informed that about five miles north were some of our kind of people living.

July, 11 1835

Saturday, July 11 - We went to that place and found one that had been baptized; a lady by the name of Eleanor Mayerd [Maynard?]. Some others are believing, but were not quite ready to obey.

July, 12 1835

Sabbath, July 12 - We held meeting at one o'clock p.m. People gave good attention, and the most of them were friendly, but some of them were hard. A middle aged lady, who was keeping a school in that place, and who was at the house where I was invited to take supper, was very much enraged at me for my preaching, and abused me very much. When supper was ready, she was walking the floor. She was invited to eat, but would not, saying that she was not well. I never saw her after, but was informed that she died in a day or two after we left, and some of them said that it was a judgment on her for her abusing that Mormon elder, having reference to me.

July, 13 1835

Monday, July 13 - We left that place and traveled about 22 miles and stopped with Brother Hammer.

July, 14 1835

Tuesday, July 14 - This day we struck into the national road again and crossed into the state of Ohio. About dark, we stopped to a tavern and engaged lodging, but the man and his son got into such a quarrel that we thought that we had better leave them to enjoy it alone. We went a mile or two further and stopped with a family who used us kindly. We left Indiana and with it a hard set of people.

July, 15 1835

Wednesday, July 15 - This day traveled about 32 miles and stopped near Dayton.

July, 16 1835

Thursday, July 16 - Crossed the Miamme River and through the beautiful town of Dayton. Nothing importance for a few days.

July, 19 1835

Sabbath, July 19 - We arrived at Brother Merrill's in Milford, Knox County, where we found a small branch of about ten members in good standing.

July, 20 1835

Monday, July 20 - We stopped this day and held a meeting in the evening. The people were attentive.

July, 21 1835

Tuesday, July 21 - Started on. Nothing of importance took place for some days.

July, 23 1835

Thursday, July 23 - Stopped at New Portage where we found a branch of the Church of a good size. We preached to them in the p.m. They appeared to be doing well.

July, 24 1835

Friday, July 24 - We traveled to Auroria where Brother Bolden and I parted, having business in different directions. I went east to the town of Hiram, the place that I started from when we started for Jackson County, Missouri in 1832. I stopped that night at the home of Sister Hinkley. The few of my old friends that I saw were glad to see me, but being in a hurry to get through I did not stop long.

July, 26 1835

Sabbath, July 26 - This morning I reached Kirtland, and stopped with Brother David Whitmer. Went to the temple to meeting and heard Sidney Rigdon preach about four hours to about 1,000 people.

July, 28 1835

Tuesday, July 28 - (My birthday) I commenced work on the temple, and worked 194 days. The House was dedicated on Sunday, March 27, 1836. During my stay in this place I boarded with Elder Runals Cahoon. It was a fine family and enjoyed myself in their society. All the important circumstances that took place in these days are recorded in history. I would only say that I believe that as great things were heard and felt and seen as there was on the day of Pentecost with the apostles. After these things were accomplished, and the elders were dismissed, I concluded to go east to visit my friends in Pennsylvania and York states.

April, 10 1836

Monday, April 10, 1836 - I started to see brothers Daniel and William in Pennsylvania. They lived in Columbus, Warren County. The roads were very bad with water, snow and mud. I arrived there on the fifth day about noon. They were much pleased to see me. I had not seen them for four years. I spent the most of my time in talking of our religion, and the Book of Mormon. But my labor seemed unavailing.

April, 19 1836

Tuesday, April 19 - This morning I left them in all probability for the last time on earth. I had done all I could, and I felt to leave the result with God. My feelings can not easily be described. I started to see my other brothers.

April, 21 1836

Thursday, April 21 - This day I arrived at the house of my brother Moses, in Catteraugus County, New York. My brother was not at home, but his family was glad to see me for I had not seen them for ten years. After explaining to them all I could concerning our religion and finding that all I could say could do them no good, I left them Saturday, April 23rd, to find other friends. I arrived in the town of China, Genesee County, New York that evening and spent two days in visiting some of my old friends in that place. They were very glad to see me and talk to me, but I could not convince them of the truth of the Book of Mormon.

April, 25 1836

Monday, April 25 - This morning I started for Alexander to see my brother James, and other connections and friends in that place. Traveled 26 miles and stopped with John Myers, my wife's brother. This was the place we first settled in the spring of 1810. It was then vast wilderness with but five families in the country. But now the patches of timber are small and far between. Oh, what a mighty change!

April, 26 1836

Tuesday, April 26 - I went to see my brother James, but he was not at home. But his wife nearly fainted when she saw me for they supposed that I was dead. My brother did not get home until Friday, during which time I spent in visiting my wife's connections and my own, and spent the most of the time very pleasantly. On the return of my brother, I spent the most of my time with him. It was with him as with others of my friends. My company was agreeable, but my religion was not. After bearing my testimony to the Book of Mormon, etc., I left them with only twenty-five cents in my pocket and 1,000 miles from home on foot and alone.

May, 2 1836

Monday, May 2 - Reached Buffalo that evening, distance 28 miles.

May, 3 1836

Tuesday, May 3 - I found my brother Moses, and telling him of the great things that were taking place found that he, like others, could not believe my testimony. But to express my feelings on leaving my friends, from first to last, would be impossible. But I had consolation that I had tried to do them good. While walking on the sidewalk I found Brother King Follett who had been to that country on business. He had been collecting some money that was due him. Our meeting was joyous. He was my neighbor in Missouri and we were both going home. He let me have some money, and we engaged a passage on the steamer Columbia, to the nearest port to Kirtland. We started at six p.m. on Tuesday, May 4th, and arrived at Kirtland next day evening. We now made arrangements for returning home.

May, 17 1836

Tuesday, May 17 - On this day Brother Follett and I started in company with Brother McHenery and family. We had a wagon and horses belonging to Brothers David and John Whitmer to go home with, taking the most of the load for them. We had good weather for a few days. It then came on rainy, and the roads became very bad but we continued our journey until the 5th of June, when we arrived at Clear Creek, Edgar County, Illinois, where Brother Baldwin and I built up the branch before spoken of-and to my joy I found that the eleven months that I had been absent from them had not destroyed that cord of love that bound us together at the time of our parting. A part of this branch had already moved to Missouri to join the saints in that place, and another company was intending to start in about ten days, and they strangely desired that I should stop and go with them as their leader. After due reflection, I consented to stop with them. My desire to see my family as soon as possible was great. Yet in view of doing them good, I concluded to put off the pleasure of my family a few days longer.

June, 8 1836

Wednesday, June 8 - Brother Follett and Brother McHenery started on, and on Friday Brothers Fisher and Ralph arrived from Kirtland. They concluded to stop a few days. Brother Baldwin also arrived.

June, 12 1836

Sabbath, June 12 - Held a meeting. Brothers Baldwin and Fisher occupied the time. I appointed a meeting for Tuesday, June 14th. After making some remarks in relation to our duty, we attended to some business. Two of the members chose to withdraw and their names were crossed out. I then baptized a young man by the name of Henery Taylor.

June, 16 1836

Tuesday, June 16 - We started, as many as had intended to go, and took our leave of those that stayed behind. We accomplished our journey in safety, and reached home with joy to myself and family, after having been about 15 months away from home. Before I got home the spirit of persecution had revived and raged so that our people that were going to that place had to stop in the counties below until arrangements could be made for another location. It was finally settled that we should go north to a new county and live by ourselves, which we were willing to do. This was afterwards called Caldwell County. The most of us left Clay County and settled our new home that season. We laid out a town on a beautiful elevated place and called it Far West. We soon organized our city and county. I was elected one of the Justices of the Peace, and had considerable business to do. We were prosperous and happy for a season. But after a while the mob spirit began to rage again, and its progress and operations are recorded in history. In the summer of (?) I bought a farm about eight miles east of the city and went on to it. I had a violent attack of chills and fevers, but finally recovered. By the time that I was able to get around a little, my wife was taken sick nigh

unto death. And by the time she got about, her mother, who had lived with us for many years, was taken sick with the Choleric and died in a few days. A few months previous this, I had to give back my farm on account of the mob operations, and spent the winter in one part of Naham Curtis' house. It was a kind family. In March, Brother Curtis and myself and our families started to find a new home in Illinois. Some part of the time the weather was very stormy and the roads extremely bad. We all had to leave the county under the extermination orders of Governor Boggs. We finally arrived at Quincy, Illinois in the forepart of April. A bargain was soon made for a small tract of land in Hancock County. Here a small town was commenced on the river which we called Commerce. But the name was altered and we called it Nauvoo. It was very sickly the first years. Our people bought land all through the country and began once more to be a happy and a prosperous people. I got a lot and worked the most of the time at the carpentering business. In the fall of 1840, we commenced to build a temple.

June, 5 1844

This season Brother Joseph wanted a large number of elders to go out on missions, and I concluded to go for one. Accordingly on the fifth of June, I started in company with Brother Enoch Burnam. We went aboard a steamer and landed at Xulton. It was the steamboat Riley. The captain did not charge us anything for our passage. Brother Nathaniel West and his wife, and her mother Sister Follett were on the same boat. They had started for the state of Ohio on a visit. We went home that night with Brother Jared Carter. He was stopping with a family by the name of McIntosh. They were friendly people. The woman belonged to the Church.

June, 8 1844

Saturday, June 8 - We started for Carlonsville, tried a number of times to get dinner and finally stopped in with a friendly man by the name of William Buell. We spent a few hours pleasantly with him.

We left him and went on trying to get a chance to preach, but in vain, for the people were beginning to be filled with hatred against the Mormons. We passed through a small town called Bunker's Hill. It was now near night, and we tried to get a place to stop but none would let us in. We continued on till about nine o'clock when we came to a tavern. At first he told us that we might stay. But when we told him that we were Mormon Elders, he would not let us stop. A man by the name of Roads had put up with him, and kindly offered to let us sleep in his wagon. We accepted the offer, and went in and lay down. Within a few moments, a number of young men who deemed to belong to the tavern, commenced throwing things against the wagon cover. I told Burnam that this was no place for us. We started out, and they commenced throwing things at us, one of which hit me in my leg which lamed me for a number of days. They followed us with a blacksnake whip and a long strip of board with which they punched us and otherwise abused us. I, being a few steps ahead of Brother Burnam, as soon as I got to the brush, I stepped into it supposing that he would follow me. But he stopped to talk with them a moment and lost sight of me, it being dark. I waited for him some time, and not seeing anything of him I went back a little further in the brush and lay down. A heavy wind with rain soon came on and I had to take it as it came. I started as soon as I could see in the morning. After traveling a few miles I found where he stayed after he had traveled a number of miles through the dark woods and bad roads. I finally found him about nine o'clock at the house of Mr. Blackburn. I had traveled this morning about twelve miles and had eaten nothing since noon the day before, and was glad to find friends who were willing to supply my wants. Among others we found Obe James Brown and wife who were very kind to us and who finally joined the Church and gathered with the saints and proved to be faithful saints.

June, 10 1844

Monday, June 10 - We stopped to rest a little and have some washing done which they did with pleasure. We tried to get the people together to hear us preach, but only got three families together. The others had heard all they wanted to of our gospel.

They had been visited by elders before we went there. We freely taught those that were willing to hear.

June, 11 1844

Tuesday, June 11 - This morning we left them and went five miles to a place called Brush Mound; in this place we had hopes of getting a chance to preach but found the people behind hand with their work on account of the long rains, and we could get no chance to preach. So after taking dinner with a Campbell preacher and talking with him for about four hours, we started on again to find what was called the Lewis Settlement, where we arrived about dark. We were received with feeling of kindness which is very desirable among strangers in a strange land. At this place we found the widow Lewis whose husband was killed at Hawn's Mill, Missouri. Her husband's brothers were very friendly. As we could get no chance for public preaching, we concluded to stop a few days and visit the people and hope to do some good that way.

June, 12 1844

Wednesday, June 12 - We went about three miles and called on a man by the name of Erceminger, of whom we had had a good report because of his friendly disposition. He was very friendly to us and made us welcome to his house and to refresh ourselves and to hold a meeting. We gave out an appointment for the next Sabbath at three p.m.

June, 13 1844

Thursday, June 13 - We went about seven miles to see a man by the name of Jameson. Stayed with him one night, next day Saturday we started back to fill our appointment, but the creek had become so full by the heavy rains that we could not fill our appointment.

June, 16 1844

Monday, June 16 - (Dates do not agree) We went next to Brother Ercemenger's and Brother Charles Jameson's. We gave out an appointment for the next Sabbath, at the Union School House, where there had been but little preaching by our elders.

June, 23 1844

Sabbath, June 23 - The house was well filled and the people gave good attention, and behaved like gentlemen, all but one man, a Campbellite Priest, who came on purpose to make a disturbance. After I had closed my remarks, he arose and undertook to destroy the validity of the Book of (Mormon) Covenants, by reading detached sentences and putting his own construction on it. He was quite mouthy and did all he could to destroy the truth. We replied to each other a number of times. When he spoke the most of the people would go out. When I began they would return, which showed their preference and their abhorrence to his dishonesty of heart. But the people did not ask us to preach again, we concluded to go on east.

June, 24 1844

Monday, June 24 - We started at two p.m. Our course lay through a prairie of about fifteen miles, much of which was covered with water from one to two feet deep. However, about dark we reached a house where we were kindly received and had a chance to dry ourselves and have supper.

June, 25 1844

Tuesday, June 25 - We started this morning and soon came to a creek which was too deep to wade. We got a man to take us over in a canoe, for which I had to give him my handkerchief. We stopped that night with a Methodist family who treated us kindly and I pray the Lord to bless them for their kindness to us.

June, 26 1844

Wednesday, June 26 - We traveled about a northeast direction. This day was some rainy and we had many streams to wade and many low places that were full of water. This continued for about fifteen miles. The first house we came to we tried to get a chance to stay but were refused. A heavy shower was hanging over us and it had begun to sprinkle but we had to go. We were about three fourths of a mile from a good looking house and when we got to it we were wet to our skins and the rain falling fast. We asked the man if we could stop with him. He at first consented, but when he found that we were Mormons he would not let us step inside the house. We stopped at the next house but could not obtain entrance. We went to the next house, he was a Methodist by the name of George W. Falconar. He received us cheerfully and did the best for us he could. We stayed with him till after breakfast next day and talked with him freely about our faith, etc. He urged us to stay till the next day on account of the difficulty in the crossing of streams of water, but we chose to go on, which we did, and I pray my Father in Heaven to bless that man and his household forever. At this place we struck the Springfield road. The rain had fallen all night, and the whole of this low level country was nearly covered with water.

June, 27 1844

Thursday, June 27 - We started and went about half a mile to a creek which was too deep to ford, and we had to work a long time to get poles and fix them into bunches of brush to form something that we could cross on. At about eleven a.m. we got over the first stream. After traveling a few miles we stopped to a house and tried to get some dinner but we were refused. We traveled this day about 20 miles and had to wade through creeks and ponds of water in some places nearly waist deep. At night we found a brother by the name of Best with whom we stayed overnight.

June, 28 1844

Friday, June 28 - We started after noon and in crossing the Ocean (???) we had to wade waist deep before reaching the bridge. Went about one mile and stopped with Brother Abbet. In this place we found a small branch of six members. One Brother Love and wife have for many years since proved themselves to be saints. We stopped with them till the next Tuesday, and held meeting on Sunday.

July, 3 1844

Wednesday, July 3 - We left this morning. Found wet traveling the most of the day. We stopped that night with a man by the name of Marshal. He was a gentleman, and used us well.

July, 4 1844

Thursday, July 4 - We found good roads this day which were a new thing to us. We stopped that night with a man whose name I did not enter at the time and have forgotten it.

July, 5 1844

Friday, July 5 - We passed through a beautiful country this day and at night arrived at the place where Brother Baldwin and I had raised us a branch of the Church nine years before. We stopped with Brother Hanks. They manifested much joy on seeing me. We have traveled hundreds of miles and found the people mostly too hardhearted and no desire to hear the words of life. We taught the people all we could get a chance to and leave the result of our labors with God. We had for some days past heard reports that there was trouble in Nauvoo and that Joseph and Hiram [Hyrum] were in jail, and finally that they were killed. But we could not credit the report and paid little attention to it. I had indulged in a hope that there would be a chance in this place to do some good, but in this I was mistaken. A few yet remained of those that had been baptized nine years before. We visited them and it seemed to give them much joy.

We visited many who had been friendly when I was there before, and I now found them the same friendly people. We finally stopped for a number of days hoping to get letters from home, but none came. Finding that we could do no good by staying, and feeling anxious about the affairs in Nauvoo we concluded to start for home.

July, 21 1844

Sabbath, July 21 - We bade our friends adieu in that place and started for home and after traveling through heat and dust we reached home on July 29th, 1844, and found the people in a state of weeping, lamentation, and sorrow. Joseph and Hiram [Hyrum] had both been murdered in the Carthage Jail. A full account is found in Church history. I soon got a chance to go on the steamer, "Maid of Iowa," as a carpenter and remained there till winter. Soon after I went to work on the temple and continued until I was wanted to work in the wagon shop to help make wagons for our removal to the mountains. About this time in the late fall, the temple was so far finished as to allow the giving of endowments. My wife was taken sick about this time but seemed to get a little better so that she could be taken to the temple and we received our endowments. A short time after she was taken worse and finally died January 24, 1846. That was a gloomy day for me. We had lived together some twenty-eight years without a jar of contention. She was a kind wife, a tender mother, and neighbor whose loss was lamented. In short, she lived and died a saint. It was a lonesome time for me. My children were mostly grown up and were gone to different places and I was left alone. After living in this way for some time I married a widow by the name of Salley Plumb. She had taken care of my wife in the last of her sickness, and I knew her to be a good and kind woman. I continued to work in the wagon shop until we got ready to leave the place. Many of us had to stop in Iowa to finish our outfit for the mountains. I had a pony and the woodwork of a wagon which I got at the shop as part pay for my work. After getting into Iowa, I went to work and traded my woodwork of my wagon and got an old wagon that would do to run, by paying boot. I traded my pony for a yoke of oxen. I then worked for flour for the journey and started for the

stopping place or Winter Quarters of the saints, not far from Council Bluffs on the Missouri River. In the company that I started with were Lyman, Moses, and Joseph Curtis and families. We arrived in that section of the country after winter had set in. Some of us got old cabins to go into, but the most of the company had to build huts to spend the winter in. We passed the winter as best we could, a part of us preparing to start on our final journey in the spring.

March 29, 1847

On the 29th day of March, 1847, I left home in company with Lyman Curtis to join the camp of pioneers to find a home for the saints somewhere in the Rocky Mountains. I had one yoke of oxen and a wagon. Lyman had one horse. We took bread stuff to last us eighteen months. Some beans, a little pork, but we had no groceries for we were not able to get them. My clothing was old and scarce. And in this condition we started to go, where, we could not tell or what we should have to contend with. We only knew that we must go and the Lord would attend to the bringing out the result. We arrived at Winter Quarters on the 31st and after finishing our arrangements we left April 3rd and on the sixth we arrived at the Elk Horn where we found four teams that had started before us. We crossed the creek on a raft and awaited of the remainder of the camp. Saturday, the 10th, the main camp commenced crossing the river and finished next day. The river was about ten rods wide. This place is in Latitude 41-46 north and 1,330 miles from the mouth of Bear River where it empties in Salt Lake according to Fremont's account.

March 31, 1847

We arrived at the main camp on the west side of the Missouri river on the 31st and after finishing our arrangements we left April 1847.

April 3, 1847

arrived at the big Elk horn on the 6th where we fell in with 4 teams that had started a little before us.

April 7, 1847

We crossed the creek on a raft and camped to wait the arrival of the remainder of the camp - our team was a yoke of oxen & one horse, we lead about thirteen hundredths of loading.

April 10, 1847

The remainder of the camp commenced crossing and finished.

April 11, 1847

Sunday 11 The Creek is about ten rods wide at the frond three feet and upwards deep. This place is about 6 miles from the mouth where it empties into the Platte river and for some miles up and down is one wide open bottom between the two streams. This place is in lat. 41-16 north and 1330 miles from Bear Creek valley at the mouth according to Queenrayts account.

April 12, 1847

Monday, April 12 - Brothers Brigham, Kimball and some others returned to hold a council with the remainder of the Twelve who had just returned from the east. The most of the camp of about 63 wagons moved on up the Platte [Platte] about ten miles and waited their return.

April 15, 1847

Thursday, April 15 - Brothers Young and Kimball and others returned to our camp on the Platte. The next day, the 16th, the camp was organized and started and went a few miles and camped; when all together the camp was 73 wagons, and 143 men. The weather was cold, ice $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick in the mornings, no grass for our teams; had to chop down cottonwood for browse. This day we traveled about seven miles and camped. It was a cold day.

April 17, 1847

Sunday 18 stayed in camp - cold weather.

April 19, 1847

Monday 19 - Fine weather moved on.

April 20, 1847

Tuesday 20 fine day very warm and dusty.

April 21, 1847

Wednesday, April 21 - Cold wind northeast. Signs of rain, about 10 a.m. we had got within a few miles of the Pawnee Indian winter quarter, and some few came out and met us and seemed very friendly. A little after noon we stopped to bait our teams, opposite their camp which was on the other side of Loup Fork. The chief and about thirty others soon gathered in. They appeared friendly and wanted presents. But when we did not give them much powder, tobacco, etc., as they wanted they went away. Some of them stole a few things such as bridles, etc. We went on about eight miles and camped. To prevent a surprise by the Indians in the night we had a hundred men on guard, fifty at a time. We had some wind and rain and cold. The Pawnees are much fairer complexioned than most other Indians. They had their heads shaved with the exception of a strip about two inches wide from a little back of their foreheads to the back of their necks and that was about two inches long and stuck straight up resembling a rooster's comb. Their dress was a breach clout and a buffalo skin or robe, a blanket to throw over their shoulders. Some had leggings.

April 22, 1847

Thursday, April 22 - The day was fine we followed up the Loup Fork of the Platte and a little after noon crossed Bever Fork, a stream about three rods wide, 2½ feet deep. The banks were high and steep and had to attach ropes to the tongues of the wagons and men to the ropes to help the teams up. This is in Latitude 41-25. A little before sunset we reached the old Pawnee town, but nothing was to be seen but the old Missionary post which consisted of a few houses

but uninhabited. The Indians had not returned from their hunt. They lived in lodges of hides and this place was evacuated on the account of the Loups harassing the Poteneatamis. This is a fine situation

April 23, 1847

Friday, April 23 - We went up about seven miles and commenced making arrangements for crossing the river which is about half a mile wide and about three feet deep in some places with quicksand and bottom. We spent the day in preparing for crossing. We had come up the Platte [Platte] and Loup Fork about 130 miles through as fine a country as I ever saw for farming or grazing. The great difficulty was the lack of timber. We camped about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile below the old Pawnee town. I went to see the place. It is situated on the north side of the river on a beautiful plain which is about 20 feet above the river. The plain is about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile wide. Back of that, the ground rises. The town stood on the bank of the river. It contained about 140 lodges. Last winter when the Pawnees were all gone on a hunt, the Sioux Indians came and burned the town, only leaving the Chief's lodge which for some reason they left unhurt. They had all been built alike. The one remaining was about 45 feet on the inside and about 15 feet high in the center. They were built round with a row of posts about seven feet high, standing nearly straight up and down. On the top of these posts were plates to support the upper part. The timbers were put on those plates running quite steep to the top, leaving a hole in the center for the smoke to go out. The fire being in the center of the lodge, from the east side an entry was made running out about 20 feet and of good width. The first covering to the lodge was poles running up and down. The next was small poles running round and lashed to the others. The next was long grass laying up and down. Then all was covered with turfs of grass. The lodges were all made in that way. They had stables made with poles stuck in the ground, and others running around fastened with strips of rawhide or bark. The timber for all this work had to be brought a number of miles and must have cost a vast amount of hard labor.

April 24, 1847

Saturday, April 24 - This day we crossed the river. We had to double teams and taking all the advantages of the stream that we could. The sand bar the bottom is quicksand and as soon as a team stop it begins to sink. We went on about three miles and camped on the bank of the river.

April 25, 1847

Sabbath 25 We stopped and rested all day.

April 26, 1847

Monday, 26 - Between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning our guard fired their guns on our left wing near the river and reported that Indians were creeping close to our lines and that six Indians arose and ran up the river bank at the discharge of our guns. The camp was soon under arms but nothing more was seen of them. It was supposed to be Sioux Indians by the shape of the track in the sand, but it proved to be Pawnee we found afterwards. The river runs west and the soil is sandy, but little of the old grass is burned and the young grass is very small which makes it hard for teams. The weather is very warm. We traveled about 14 miles and camped on a salt run called Gravel Creek. By this time timber had become very scarce. This evening about dark the Indians took two horses and made their escape.

April 27, 1847

Tuesday, 27 - We left the Loup Fork and went south to strike Platte about 10 a.m. We came to where the old grass had been burned and the young grass began to make its appearance. Through all our journey thus far and still further we had to feed our teams some of our bread stuff to keep them up. At this place we found the first signs of buffalo. Before we reached the Platte Bottoms the ground became so sandy that it looked like a barren desert. When we struck the bottom the grass was better. Stopped this night on a fine little creek but found it difficult to find a few dry willows to make a little fire. One

antelope was killed. This was the first game of any size that had been killed since we started. Just as we stopped a gun accidentally went off and broke a horse's leg. This was the fourth horse that was lost since Friday. On that night a horse belonging to Brother B. Young got hung by its halter. We had a little sprinkle of rain this morning with high winds. We traveled this day about 15 miles.

April 28, 1847

Wednesday, April 28 - We crossed the creek and went on south about 8 miles and came near the Platte timber. We then turned up. The bottom had the appearance of a vast green sea, no timber in sight only a narrow strip on our left. It is a beautiful country but rather sandy. We traveled this day about 12 miles.

April 29, 1847

Thursday, 29 - We crossed Wood Creek this morning. This empties into the Platte. We traveled today about 16 miles. The day was very warm and the dust rose in a dense column along the whole line. It had been so for a number of days which made it very disagreeable.

April 30, 1847

Friday, 30 - It was quite cool through the night. This day the wind was north and came brisk. We traveled about 16 miles and camped without timber.

May 1, 1847

Saturday, May 1 - Windy and cold. About 9 a.m. we saw about 50 buffalo. Our hunters went after them & wounded one, but got none. Soon after we saw hundreds of them and we got five old ones and a number of calves. This day we passed through what is called a prairie dog town. This town covers hundreds of acres. They are of the dog species about as large as a ground dog and live in holes and

they were quite thick. We stopped a little before sun set and got in our beef which was received with much joy. We had a fine feast that night. We camped on a knoll of a creek which we called Buffalo Creek. We found some wood. Traveled that day about 12 miles. We have passed through a fine bottom country of good land for some days. The interior is too broken for cultivation.

May 2, 1847

Sunday, May 2 - Our camp this morning have the appearance of a meat market all hands were busy fixing their beef for cooking or drying and making coats of the hide. They are not good for robes at this season of the year. The ice was near $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick this morning but soon came of warm and pleasant. We had passed for some days through a country of buffalo grass, it resembles blue grass, it is fine and for common not more than from 4 to 6 inches high, in many places some would think he was in an old pasture, the grass is eat short and the ground well covered with dung but the fence is missing. It has been hard on our teams thus for want of grassing. This evening we went on about 5 miles to a tolerable good grazing place and camped on the bank of the Platte above Grand Island and at the mouth of a creek that we called Bluff Creek. The river at this place I should think to be $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide & no wood only willow brush. The buffalo meat came good to us, for Curtis and myself have lived on corn bread water porridge for some time; only when we could get a little milk of Br John Browner to put in to it which made it much better.

May 3, 1847

Monday, May 3 - The camp stooped the day to do some blacksmith work and let our teams recoup a little it being the best place we had found. At the same time a company of twenty hunters went out to hunt and some of fifteen went up the river to see the situation of the country, about three o'clock they came back and reported that they had seen a large camp of Indians and that they tried waylay them

but our men discovered them in time to escape. They are not in habit of attacking large bodies of white men but when they can get a few in a company they are most sure to rob them and sometimes will kill one or two when no more are near. A good deal of anxiety was felt for the hunters who had gone north and a company was immediately sent for them. They all returned in safety. They killed 2 or 3 antelope and about as many buffalo calves. Antelope is something a medium between the deer and goat. They have hair like a deer and forked horns. We saw smoke ahead and learned that what little food there was would be destroyed by fire.

May 4, 1847

Tuesday May 4, 1847 - We crossed the creek at the mouth which was easily rendered passable by throwing in some willows. We had not gone far before we found that our fears were too true. The old grass which was spent and fine by this time was somewhat filled with a new growth which made tolerable feed though not the best, but the Indians had set all on fire excepting here and there a spot. The blackness of prairie under our circumstances presented a dismal light. At this time a small company of traders was passing down on the other side of the river Platte, they seeing us stop and one came over and informed us that on the side of the river the grass was good. We held a short consultation on the subject and concluded to keep on this side because it would be better for our brethren who would follow after. So after writing a few letters to send back we started on, we went that day about 10 miles and camped on a creek which I call Clear Creek. We found grass at this place.

May 5, 1847

Wednesday, May 5 - This day we found the land more moist and soft than we had found before the wheels cut in considerably in many places. We found the grass mostly burned, about half past 4 we had to stop because of the fire and smoke ahead, and the wind had blown a perfect gale all day from the south. We camped close to the

river and put our teams on a small island where there was grass. This day we went about 10 miles. Today the company killed one buffalo cow and five calves. We had plenty of beef, veal & antelope all first rate meat.

May 6, 1847

Thursday, May 6 - As at soon waking where we started early and and went 2 or 3 miles to a place that had not been burned and took breakfast and baited, the ground was dry today & wind west. It was a pleasant scenery to see hundreds & thousands of buffalo feeding quietly strung along for many miles between us and the bluffs, and elk & antelope feeding with them undisturbed by this time many of the teams began to fail for want of food. We could see the green grass on the other side of the river, and the water being low we could easily got to it and had a good trail to travel in and for us it would have been better, but it was necessary to select a route on the north side of the Platte for the church to travel and if we had crossed those who followed would lose the track or at least the water by that time would be so high they could not cross and it might prove greatly to their disadvantage, so we kept on. This day we went about 14 miles and camped on the river bank. This river is remarkable for holding a due east & west course.

May 7, 1847

Friday, May 7 - We started late this morning that our teams might have a chance to fill themselves the wind blew heavy from the north and cool. The Indians have camped along the river in large bodies of hundreds of lodges in a place which have been done at different times for years past and the sticks they left, together with some driftwood and buffalo dung served for our fuel. The buffalo are so plenty at this time that it requires a strict watch to keep them and our cows from running together. We could kill without measure but we only kill what we want to eat. We are in full view of many hundred of

them all the time. This day we traveled about 9 miles and camped near the river by a plus.

May 8, 1847

Saturday, May 8 - Fine warm morning. We traveled this day about 11 miles. The grass is entirely eat down by the buffalo so that our teams can scarcely subsist. The soil we passed over today is too sandy for tilling. The bluffs where we stop tonight comes down the river. The buffalo has been as thick as sheep in a pasture on both sides of the river and some came within a few rods of us. The river bends to the northwest.

May 9, 1847

Sabbath, May 9 - We went this day about 3½ miles to get better feed but found a sandy, naked country. These are hard times but we hope for better. 300 to 320 miles from winter quarters.

May 10, 1847

Monday, May 10 - At this place we put up a post with a box on it and a letter in the box and for the next camp. It was marked on the outside of the box 316 miles from winter quarters. We crossed two creeks today one a little after noon which I called mud creek, it was bad to cross the mud was deep. We went 10 miles and camped.

May 11, 1847

Tuesday, May 11 - Today we found but little grass for our teams. We saw but few buffalo & appeared that they had eat all the grass and left the place. It had the appearance of a pasture that had been over stocked with cattle, In the afternoon we crossed a small creek where there was a little grass and we camped having come only about 8 miles our teams were failing for want of food. Our course for a few

days had been from west to southwest. We had now come to the forks of the river. We kept up the north fork.

May 12, 1847

Wednesday, May 12 - We went about 12 miles and camped. It was a fine warm day.

May 13, 1847

Thursday, May 13 -The wind blew very cold from the east. The weather changes almost everyday and it makes it very disagreeable we came 10 miles, crossed Sandey creek and camped. This creek is about 8 rods wide the water shallow with a quicksand bottom. If a team stops when crossing it immediately begins to sink and will soon settle to the hub. If it was not for the buffalo dung which is plenty we must frequently have suffered for want of fire. This evening is very cold, our coats and mittens were used with pleasure.

May 14, 1847

Friday, May 14 - cold east wind with a thunder shower from the southwest. The bluffs came down to the river a little ahead and we had to go round through the bluffs about four miles, we found a very good passage through. The bluff country is very broken and sandy but good places can be found for cultivation. The roads not so good today, some a little too sandy & some a little too wet. Came 8 miles no wood had to burn dung.

May 15, 1847

Saturday, May 15 - Wind north, very cold, rain a little, overcoats, robes, blankets and mittens are all in fashion now, we had to pass over the bluffs again about two miles then struck the flats again. We went about 7 miles.

May 16, 1847

Sunday 16 - Cleared off pleasant and more warm. Stopped all day. The Platte River is wide, shoal water, full of islands. The water is like the Missouri, it has the appearance of dirty soap suds, it is occasioned by the land, the water is healthy and good.

May 17, 1847

Monday, May 17 - Fine warm day, we had to cross the bluffs about 2 miles and then struck the bottom again. we crossed a number of fine springs but ruins the ground & was rather wet. In some places loose sand. We went $12\frac{3}{4}$ miles and camped. The feed is getting much better.

May 18, 1847

Tuesday, May 18 - We kept in the valley all day, some soft roads. We have not seen a grove of timber for some days. Went $15\frac{3}{4}$ miles this day.

May 19, 1847

Wednesday, May 19 - Rained some in the night & rainy a little this morning. We soon had to raise the bluffs again. They were steep and entirely dry sand, it was the hardest wheeling that we had found. We struck the bottom again in about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It soon commenced raining and continued a cold rainy day. We traveled almost $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles and camped. The sight of a tree is out of the question. It is seldom we see so much as a bush. Today we began to see cedar bushes on the side of the bluffs on the south side of the river.

May 20, 1847

Thursday, May 20 - Cloudy cool day. This day at noon we came to the place where the Oregon trail strikes the south side of the north

fork, it is at arch hollow. Crossed one creek about 4 rods wide & quicksand bottom & rather bad. Came $15\frac{3}{4}$ miles this day.

May 21, 1847

Friday, May 21 - Cleared off more pleasant and warm. Went $15\frac{1}{2}$ miles, a little before we camped we saw 2 or 3 Indians, one came to us. He was a Sioux, well dressed and appeared very friendly. This was the first we had seen for a long time. No timber in this country.

May 22, 1847

Saturday, May 22 - Weather good, about the middle of the afternoon we came to the bluffs again, where they joined to the river and we had to find a pass. The bluffs at this place seemed to have been thrown up in the utmost confusion, rocks, gravel and sand just as it happened. We soon struck the bottom again and camped. The bluffs at this place have the appearance at a little distance of some waste city with its crumbled walls and broken down edifice and ruined towers, some of the walls standing from 50 to 100 feet higher than the land about them. We went $15\frac{1}{2}$ miles this day

May 23, 1847

Sunday, May 23 - We lay by this day, it was very warm until nearly night when the wind came from the north and in a short time it began blow and rains very hard and was extremely cold. The wind blew a gale all night.

May 24, 1847

Monday, May 24 - It was so cold the we could hardly keep comfortable with overcoats and mittens on, it snowed a little, we went on the road was quite sandy this day. A little before night we discovered a party of Indians on the other side the river on horses coming, when they see we were going to camp they hoisted the

American flag. we answered it with a white one, they then commenced crossing the river near forty in number. They stayed on the bank, we camped near $\frac{1}{2}$ mile back from the river. Some of them came to us and was very friendly and some of them stayed all night. We went this day $16\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

May 25, 1847

Tuesday, May 25th - The most of the Indians and squaws came to see and trade with us mostly some traded alike meal corn and bread and got robes &c. Some horses were swapped and a number of trades made. They were good looking and gently behaved people neither too bashful nor too bold but behaved like gentlemen & ladies. They were dressed neat and clean and in the highest style of Indian habit their clothing which was mostly skins were highly ornamented with beads and other trimmings, and they appeared to possess as noble a spirit as ever animated the human breast. When we started on they crossed the river and went their way. They were a band of the Sioux. Today is warm. We went twelve miles and camped on rather wet ground.

May 26, 1847

Wednesday, May 26 - This morning we passed the chimney rock. It is situated on the south side of the river. It has the appearance of a chimney coming out of the center of a round roofed house. The main part is about $\frac{2}{3}$ the height of the whole and the height of the whole is about 270ft high. The rocks have as mounds through this section have a singular appearance - many of them stand disconnected with the bluffs, and one from one to 150 ft high and have at a small distance very much the appearance of demolished palisades on some magnificent edifices that whose walls have gone to ruin and decay. The chimney can be seen 20 or 30 miles. This day we went $12\frac{1}{2}$ miles and camped. We had not fuel sufficient to do our cooking with, we have got above the [-----] that have wood and it is with difficulty that we can get fuel to make the little fire that we need. We

have ascertained the distance we travel since the 9th of May by a machine attached to Br Clatens wagon wheel.

May 27, 1847

Thursday, May 27 - This day we passed the Scotch bluffs the same appearance of decayed magnificence is to be seen at that as well as many other places. The day was quite warm until near sun set when it turned quite cool and rained a little. We traveled 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

May 28, 1847

Friday, May 28 - Cold northeast storm and we did not start till near noon, the rain ceased and we went on 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles and camped. It was a cold, cloudy disagreeable day. We found tolerable plenty of drift wood which was very acceptable in a cold day. Today we see a very few trees on the south side of the river which was a new sight to us for we had not seen any timber growing for a long time only a few cedar bushes and they were mostly on the other side of the river. We had not seen any buffalo for some days but we have killed a few antelope.

May 29, 1847

Saturday, May 29 - It was misty and cold this morning and we did not start early as usual. For some time past the brethren many of them have given way to an evil spirit such as dancing too much playing cards, checkers, dice &c and some would use foul language and neglected prayer and many things that was leading to evil such as joking and excess of laughter & President Young seeing the situation of the camp improved an opportunity this morning after the rain had stilled to call the camp together, he reproved them sharply, for their conduct and warned them of the distress that would come on them without repentance reformation, and after much good instruction and admonitions he called on them to know whether they would reform and the camp all covenanted to reform. He then appointed the next

day for a day of fasting & prayer and for breaking bread. After noon we started and went 8½ miles. It rained smartly before we camped but stopped before sun set.

May 30, 1847

Sunday, May 30 - We attended to the duties of the day and a good spirit seemed to prevail a good many expressed there determination to do better and considered the reproof to be for the good of the camp

May 31, 1847

Monday, May 31 - Frost this morning but was a fine day. In the afternoon we found the land very sandy and hard wheeling. The soil was not productive. We went 16¾ miles and camped on a small creek. The feed was rather scarce. We began to find a little more timber scattering trees marking the course of the ravines. Bushes on the bank become more common. Today we came in sight of the Black hills at a distance of about 30 miles which lays a little above Laramie.

June 1, 1847

Tuesday, June 1 - This was warm. The road was mostly very sandy & hard wheeling. The grass scarce. We reached Laramie a little before night. We traveled 12½ miles and camped on the opposite side from the fort. 522 miles to Winter Quarters

June 2, 1847

Wednesday, June 2 - We spent the day in making arrangements for crossing the river as we could not pass the Black hills on this side. The traders had a flatboat at this place and we chartered it to take our teams over for fifteen dollars. The traders was very friendly to us The season are very backward in this country, the leaves were only fairly putting out, not half grown. It is said they never have any

sickness in this place, the atmosphere is very pure. We can see the high hills that is said to be fifty miles off and they do not appear more than 8 or 10 other that are 10 or 12 appear, not more than 2 or 3 at the most

June 3, 1847

Thursday, June 3 - The wind comes this morning quite cold from the east. The fort was built by the traders and stands in the forks between the Laramie fork and the Platte. The Platte is about 20 rods wide at this place and the fork about half as long. From the Loup fork to this place we came a route that emigrant never came before - a distance of something like 390 miles. This day we came cross the river and should have finished but the after noon was showering.

June 4, 1847

Friday, June 4th - We finished crossing and I went to the fort which was about 1½ miles from the Platte. It is made raw brick about the houses are attached to the wall on the inside and two stories high, one row of houses even through the center of the fort. There is about 40 men belonging to this post but the most of them are out a trading &c. At this point we strike the Oregon trail a company of emigrants for that place are expected in today. At the fort they ask 25 cents per for [----], 1 dollar for cafe, 1 dollar for sugar, 1.50 for tobacco. They ask about the same for buffalo robes that they do in St. Louis. I wrote a letter home from this place. The men three in number that belonged to the army that had come with us from winter quarters, took their departure for Ft. Pusbelo accompanied by Br A. Lyman. It is 180 miles near south. We were joined by a small company of brethren with their families that have wintered at Pusbeol, they had five wagons & one cart worth of stock, we left about noon went 8½ miles and camped. The road was mostly good in some places & it was quite sandy and some little hilly. We kept along the river mostly. The hills nicely dotted with yellow pine & cedar some few ash and a little other timber grew very scattering along the river. Many of the

bluffs was composed of a substance about as hard as unbaked brick and the storms had worn them in curious shapes so that many of them had the appearance of the works of art. It rained a little in the after noon. I saw a number of samples of the Sioux manner of depositing their dead - they roll them in a blanket of skin and lash them in the forks or on the limb of a tree.

June 5, 1847

Saturday, June 5th - We had a pleasant morning. We kept along the river about 10 miles from the fort, then left it and crossed the hills, some of them was tolerable steep, but the road was mostly good. The camp above mentioned bound for Oregon of 11 wagons passed us while we were stopped at noon. We went a little past them at night to camp. We had a little shower this after noon and quite a shower in the night. We camped on a fine little creek called cottonwood creek. We traveled 17 miles this day. We find plenty of wood for fires.

June 6, 1847

Sunday, June 6th - We held meeting in the fore noon and went 5 mile in the after noon in order to be able to reach the next camping place the next day. This morning the camp we had passed went past us and before noon another camp of 20 wagons passed us. All ox teams and from 3 to 5 yoke to the wagon. We found considerable timber growing along the creek. We went past the last camp that passed us about one mile and near the other to camp. we found the best grass at this place that we have found on our journey. A shower about noon.

June 7, 1847

Monday, June 7 - About when we were starting other camp of movers for Oregon 13 wagons in number passed us, we have had to fix some sidling places and some steep pitches today, have passed

over some tolerable heavy hills. We traveled 13 miles and camped on Willow creek. The grass was good and considerable timber. We have had some showers today. We are now about opposite the Laramie Peak of the Black hills. They are high and snow is in plain view on the top of it. The timber on the streams is mostly box elder and cottonwood, chokecherry & gooseberry bushes are plenty in many places. Wilde sage is very abundant. It resembles tame sage in the form of the bush only the stock grows some times 2 inches thick. The leaves are much narrower than the tame sage and square at the point and notched on the end.

June 8, 1847

Thursday, Tuesday 8 - We had many heavy hills to cross today which were mostly rocky and gravelly. We crossed beds of creeks which were mostly dry. The day was cold, wind west. We went 15½ miles and camped on swift creek a fine stream with plenty of wood for camps.

June 9, 1847

Wednesday, June 9 - fine day. after going about 3 miles we crossed Red bank creek, steep banks not very high, fine stream, some timber. This morning a camp was sent forward to make some arrangements for crossing the Platte. The road was not near so hilly today as it was where we traveled yesterday. Some deer or antelope was killed by our hunters about every day. This day we went 19½ miles and camped on a fine stream called big timber creek.

June 10, 1847

Thursday, June 10 - Fine day. Rather more hilly. Crossed a number of streams seinted with timber. About 3 o'clock we struck the Platte. We went 17¾ miles and camped on a beautiful stream called Deer Creek with considerable large timber of the species of cottonwood

with a long narrow leaf. A long coal seam was found in the bluffs 46 miles from [-----] den camp was near the [-----]

June 11, 1847

Friday, June 11 - Fine weather and meeting good roads. We killed plenty of antelope and some Deer. By this time we had to diminish our allowance of bread and eat more meat which came very hard on me for fresh meat always gave me the bowel complaint. This day we traveled 17 miles and camped on the river bank. There we overtook one of the Oregon camps that had gone past us. They were crossing the river but we went up further to cross. Afternoon and quite a shower in the night. We camped on a fine little stream called Cottonwood creek. we now found wild sage in abundance. We traveled this day 17 miles. We find plenty of wood for fire on the creeks.

June 12, 1847

Saturday, June 12 - My health has been very poor today, we had tolerable good road, we went $17\frac{3}{4}$ miles and reached the main ford. The water was so high that we could not ford it. The men that we had sent to make arrangements for crossing have overtaken the first camp of the Oregon camp and had taken their own goods over, with a leather boat that we had brought with us for which they received a fair reward in provisions which was much needed by us we camped on the river bank. The bluffs laying south with heaps of snow in spots near the top. The bluffs were nearly covered with pine, to us it looked like bushes and the top of the bluffs looked to be about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant some of our men went to get some snow &c and found it to be from 5 to 8 miles and the [-----] was large pine trees objects in this country appear close at hand when they are at a great distance. This ford is $125\frac{1}{2}$ miles from St John.

June 13, 1847

Sunday, June 13 - We had meeting as usual Bros B Young and Heber Kimball and Orson Pratt gave much good instruction. The Provision above mentioned was divided among the camp which amounted 5 ½ lb flour 2 corn meal and about one of bacon to each person all of which was much needed by us for our provisions was getting short truly the hand of the Lord was in it and he has blessed us all the way thus far.

June 14, 1847

Monday, June 14 - We made rafts of pine & fir poles we got from the mountains or bluffs on which we crossed the wagon and took the goods in the leather boat. In the afternoon we had a thunder shower with heavy winds that broke us off.

June 15, 1847

Tuesday, June 15th - We crossed what we called hot the water was quite high and rising. The river at this place is about ¼ of a mile wide and runs fast so that we have to tow our rafts up more than one mile. Companies of emigrants was coming near at hand and our company had already arrived and they had no means for crossing and wanted us to cross them over so partly for accommodation and partly for the pay we concludes to have a small camp stop with the boat for a length of time and to make a sort of ferry boat by making two canoes and fastening them together to make it more convenient crossing.

June 16, 1847

Wednesday, June 16 - Accordingly a camp was sent to get the timber which was a number of miles off and the remainder continued crossing over as before. At evening the camp returned with timber for two canoes. The wind continued to blow down the river which made it hard crossing.

June 17, 1847

Thursday, June 17 - We finished crossing a little after noon and then commenced crossing the other camp while a set of hands was working on the new boat. Before night another camp came up. By sun rise next morning the first camp was all over. This afternoon it grew cold so that overcoats was worn.

June 18, 1847

Friday, June 18 - This morning everything was covered with frost. but the morning was pleasant and warmer. We spent the day in crossing the emigrants.

June 19, 1847

Saturday, June 19 - We left a camp to attend the ferry and started on. We left the river and found a hilly country tho not bad. We went 21½ miles and camped in place without much grass and all the wood we should get through this section was was the dead wild sage or neer-noot a small green brush that looks some like hemlock.

June 20, 1847

Sunday, June 20 - For want of grass on our team we went on. We found some small patches of grass and some water in several places. We came to the willow springs about noon which is a good camp ground for a small camp. We then cross a high hill and from the top we could see beads of snow south on the mountains at considerable distance off. The hill was gravelly and the bottoms sandy. This day we went 20¼ miles and camped. It was near dark.

June 21, 1847

Monday, June 21 - Some frost this morning near the the creak. We passed a number of salt ponds this fore noon. The salt covers the ground where the water is dried away a bushel could be gathered in a few hours. It has a different taste from common salt. It tastes as if

mixed with penlash and it will [-----] in side of saleratus to raise bread with. We have come south direct towards the mountains for about 12 miles. We reached sweet water at Independence Rock about noon and according to our measurement it is $174\frac{1}{2}$ from Laramie or Ft. John. Some of the camp went back at noon and got pails full of the salt or saleratus which proved good to raise bread with. This afternoon we crossed the creek which was about three rods wide and $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft deep. We went up the valley between the two ranges of mountains and turned west. The valley offers but little grass only on the margin of the creek. The production is mostly wild sage & green most. Where we camped which is about 7 miles the rock, the creek runs through a notch in the mountain only wide enough to pass through a distance of 40 rods or more and the rock standing almost perpendicular of about 200 ft high. It is a singular place and a fine situation for mills. This is called the devils gate. We traveled this day $15\frac{1}{4}$ The country is mostly sand on gravel which made it very hard wheeling. Our provision of [-----] growing short Curtis and I concluded to ration ourselves to one pint of meal or flour per day each.

June 22, 1847

Tuesday, June 22 - we traveled $20\frac{3}{4}$ miles and camped on the bank of the river. The grass was tolerable good. The weather was very warm and plenty of snow in plains fight on the high hills or what is called sweet water mountains.

June 23, 1847

Wednesday, June 23 - It has been very sandy heavy wheeling today. We now can see the green wind river mountains and they look very high. We traveled today 17 miles and got a very good camping place excepting timber. The wind green river mountain is covered with snow. That as well as the sweet water mountain is a part of the Rocky mountain.

June 24, 1847

Thursday, June 24 - We traveled $17\frac{3}{4}$ miles today before we found a spot of grass sufficient to bait our teams on. By that time it was near 2 o'clock the roads was sandy and our teams tired and no other camping place being several miles we very near concluded to stop till another day.

June 25, 1847

Friday, June 25 - This day we passed over some high hills some of them were covered on the tops with rock standing partly on the edge at an incline of about 45 degrees. Rather were hard gravel, at times we would strike the river and crossed its branches several times. We found some spots of grass as usual by the river and on other little streams, but no timber only shrubbery. The day was cold and very windy. We were truly amidst the Rocky Mountain though we had not reached the highest point. We found snow and ice in different places along the road, we traveled this day $20\frac{1}{2}$ miles. This is a cold, frozen part of the world and is far from being fit for humane beings to live in. We frequently passed emigrating camp and were frequently passed by them.

June 26, 1847

Saturday, June 26 - This is a cold morning. every thing covered with frost and ice in the water pails. It soon became warm again only wind was cold tho a light breeze. At noon we came to sweet water again and crossed it and stopped to bait. The snow lay in heaps under the north side of the bluffs where we stooped 5 or 6 ft deep. the grass standing green close by it and dandelions in full bloom. some few strawberry and gooseberry were in bloom, we traveled this day $18\frac{3}{4}$ miles and camped on the banks of the sweet water again, We were now in the pass of the mountain, a little a head of us the water run west. We are camped between the table rock on the south and green river or wind mountain on the north, they being about 20

mines about The face of the earth is much leveler and smoother through this section than it has been for some days past. From the passe on to this place to St. John where we camped tonight according to our measure is 227¼ miles

June 27, 1847

Sunday, June 27 - The morning is pleasant but cool and frosty. The manitou crying a little to the north of us covered with snow looks rather odd at this season of the years. The scarcity of grass compelled us to go on. We met a camp from Oregon and one olde mountaineer who gave us not very favorable account of the country around Bear river on the salt lake. The day was warm and the land rather rolling and loos gravel which made it rather hard wheeling. We went 15½ miles and camped where grass was very scarce. The man above mentioned was by the [-] of Harris, he said he had lived in this country 22 years.

June 28, 1847

Monday, June 28 - Warm day, fine roads tolerable level. This afternoon we met Captain Bridges of Bridger fort. He gave us much information in regard to the salt lake country and all the surrounding country and the account was very favorable. We traveled this day 15¼ miles and camped on the little sandy which we had crossed a little above. It about 3 rods wide [-] ft deep or a little more.

June 29, 1847

Tuesday June 29 - Warm day. The country was quite level and the green wind river mountain was in plain view on the right, the mountain west & north. about 20 miles off and the mountains south & west about 100 miles off salt [-] them covered with snow, various hills were in plain view. Our course, was about southwest in a fine road the most of the day. We traveled till dark in order to get to grass & water. We crossed the big sandy at noon it was about 6 rods wide

& about 2 ft deep. We camped on its banks the night after traveling 23³/₄ mile.

June 30, 1847

Wednesday, June 30 - Warm day. We struck the Green River at noon 8 miles travel. It is seinted with bitter cottonwood of good rise, We had to make rafts to cross on which was made this afternoon. Green River is about 62¹/₄ miles from the Pass. This day Ban Brannon came to us from California and he brought a good report from the country and the brethren in that country.

July 1, 1847

Thursday, July 1 - We commenced crossing the river. This river is about 40 rods wide and the currant is heavy it was hard job to cross over.

July 2, 1847

Friday-Saturday July 2-3 - About noon we finished and went on 3 miles down the river about south.

July 4, 1847

Sunday, July 4 - We camped stayed at this place and sent five men back to meet the camp that was coming after us to take dispatches and guide them on. The weather is warm. a good many of the camp has been taken sick within a week past. They are taken with a pain in the head and back attended with a fever. They get over it mostly in 2 or 3 days. Today a part of of a detachment from the Mormon Battalion came up with us. the remainder of that detachment is a short distance behind. They were on their way to Fort Bridger on business. We found the mosquitoes very thick on this river, Previous to this time we found but few. I have not seen scarcely any black gnats or green headed flies since we started from home. What is

commonly called a wild sage that I gave a description of directly after we struck the black hills. I think it more properly wild wormwood and in some places it grows 8ft high and 6 inches thick, but mostly it is not more than 2ft high and 3 inches thick the dead stalks supplies us well for wood. We struck the southeast corner of Oregon at the [-] at this time we were in the [-] of Californian.

July 5, 1847

Monday, July 5 - We kept down Green River a few miles then left it and started over on Hams fork and camped. Traveled 20 miles.

July 6, 1847

Tuesday, July 6 - Struck on Black's fork went 18¼.

July 7, 1847

Wednesday, July 7 - crossed Blacks fork a number of times and crossed near Fort Bridger. It consists of three log rooms and a small yard inclosed with pickets. The Bear River Mountains are about 25 miles south though they appear to be not more than 5 and well covered with snow. We came today 17¼. I was taken very violently sick on Monday with the complaint that was in the camp. I do not know as I ever experienced more pain in the same length of time in my life than I did through Monday night. It was mostly in my hips & back. I am now on the mend but am hardly able to walk and there is new cases about every day and what will be the end the Lord only knows. The stoney ground that we have to cross is very hard on those that are sick and in great pain.

July 8, 1847

Thursday, July 8 - We stopped all day. Frost this morning. Some new cases of sickness.

July 9, 1847

Friday, July 9 - we traveled 13 miles and camped on muddy. The road has been hilly & stoney. My health is on the mend but I am quite feeble.

July 10, 1847

Saturday, July 10 - some low hills and very stoney some small fine valleys. Went 18 miles.

July 11, 1847

Sunday, July 11 - lay by all day.

July 12, 1847

Monday, July 12 - Not quite so low hills. Crossed Bear creek. The soil looks better ma[-] [-] and herbage more plenty on the hills. We had found scattering flax for some days past. President Young was taken sick today and stopped with a few other wagons when we stopped at noon. We traveled this day 16½ miles. We began to find grass quite plenty. my health remains very poor so that I am hardly able to walk. It was thought best to send on a few teams and men to look out and fix the road and the remainder with most of the sick to stop a day or two accordingly. 23 teams started a little after noon.

July 13, 1847

Tuesday, July 13 - We took the Valley of Wells fork and followed it down. We went about 8 miles and camped. Our measuring wagon stayed so we had to guess our distance.

July 14, 1847

Wednesday, July 14 - We found scattering flax of a good size and quality and considerable of something that resembled wheat, but on close examination it appeared more like downy chess. The valley was fertile but very narrow and the hills on both sides were several hundred feet high and on the right hand it was rock. In many places it was difficult passing. a little before night we struck Weavers fork and camped. We came about 14 miles.

July 15, 1847

Thursday, July 15 - We followed down the valley which was narrow with high hills on both sides till we came to the canyon, but choosing if possible to find a little passage and so avoid passing down some ten miles in the bed of the river we stopped for the day and sent out men in different wagons to find a better way if possible. We came today about 6 miles. The man succeeded in finding leads on trail over the hills.

July 16, 1847

Friday, July 16 - We wound our way up a ravine to the top of the hill very difficult to ascend for about 7 miles and a rise of about from 400 to 500 feet. We then descended another ravine equally as bad and camped after traveling about 12 miles. Curtis was taken sick this evening and I was not hardly able to sit up which made things look rather gloomy.

July 17, 1847

Saturday, July 17 - The ice was as thick window glass this morning. Br Orson Pratt & Captain John Brown went on to examine the route and others sent to work fixing hard places. In the afternoon we started on and crossed over a hill and come on to a creek and followed it up. We had to cross it a number of time which was hard to do. We went about 6 mile.

July 18, 1847

Sunday, July 18 - Frost & ice this morning. The weather is very hot through the day. We stopped to rest today and Br Pratt delivered a good discourse by way of encouragement &c

July 19, 1847

Monday, July 19 - Frost & Ice this morning we followed up the creek south and crossed it 8 or 9 times. It is truly a difficult passage. the land about the stream is rich. We came about 7 miles this day. Gooseberries are plenty in many places on these creeks.

July 20, 1847

Tuesday, July 20 - Ice & frost this morning. We left Canon creek this morning and struck up a ravine. Our journey for a number a day had been desolate. The mountains on both sides was very high and the ravine so [-] ked that we could not see but a short distance and it looked as tho we were shut up in a gulf without any chance for escape. The ground was quite rising for about five miles. we found more timber to day than we had for hundreds of miles, but the most of it had been killed by the fire. After we got to the top of the hill we had a long a steep hill to go down we traveled this day about 7 miles.

July 21, 1847

Wednesday, July 21 - We soon left the ravine and crossed a very heavy hill about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile up. We then descended down into another ravine. We went about 7 miles this day.

July 22, 1847

Thursday, July 22 - This morning a part of the camp that we have left come up with us and others have to stop because of sickness. Our move was slow for it took all the able spare hands from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the

time to fix the road so that we could possibly get along. It took us till four o'clock to fix the road and go about four miles. We had to pass through a canyon that was full of timber mostly maple of a small growth and the mountains came almost together at the bottom. But when we got through it seemed like bursting from the confines of a prison. We came in it full view of the southeast part of the great salt lake that we had been so long looking for. It was about 30 miles off a valley of about 20 eight miles wide which lay before us - the most of it covered with good grass and various other vegetables. But timber was handy to be [--] only up in the mountains we could. We soon camped and waited for Br Pratt and others who have gone on in the morning to explore the country in the vicinity of our entrance who, when they returned, reported that they found but little timber only what was in the mountains.

July 23, 1847

Friday, July 23 - We went a short distance to a small grove and camped. Br Pratt called the camp together & measures was entered into for getting in our potatoes, barley, corn, buckwheat, turnips &c, plows were started and some planting done that day. We found the soil to be good and the air heavy and that we were out of the reach of our enemies and that the country was well watered with good water and that God had blessed us on our journey very much. None of us had died and those that had been sick was mostly about well. According to our measure we were 114 miles from Fort Bridger and from Fort John 512 and about 1040 miles from Winter Quarters

July 24, 1847

Saturday, July 24 - About noon Br Young and the remainder of the camp come up which gave us much joy and we have a time of rejoicing together.

July 25, 1847

Sunday, July 25 - We have a meeting and much good instruction was given. Br B Young said that we should find a place for a permanent location. We would then have our land set off to us and each one manage his own affairs and work for themselves &c. We have men out every day exploring the country and it was found that there was large amounts of timber in the mountains but the some of it was hard to get at. The timber was oak, ash, balsam &c. Some mountains nearby have plenty of snow on the tops at this time

July 26, 1847

Monday, July 26 - The farming and other business was continued.

July 28, 1847

Wednesday, July 28 - This day I am fifty years old. I have seen many hard times in my day, yet I have been greatly blessed of the Lord for I have heard and my part has been brought to believe the fulness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ which thing has brought me to this place where I trust that we can worship in peace & establish his Kingdom. In my past life I have had many weaknesses and foibles. and for all my imperfections I ask my Heavenly Father in the name of Jesus to forgive me and to lengthen out my days for many years and enable me to show them all in his service that I may receive every blessing that is my privilege to enjoy. And I ask him to bless all my connection and my family with full salvation both temporal and spiritual and to the Presidency of his church as they stand in need together with the other co[-----] and all Israel every where and hearten the time that Israel shall be gathered home and the Ammonites come to an understanding of the plan of salvation and Zion. Zion be built up no more to be thrown down and the blood of the martyred Joseph & Hiram and the blood of all the martyred saints be avenged on the the head of this wicked generation. These and all other blessings that is necessary for the Kingdom of God I ask in the name of Jesus amen. Levi Jackman. This evening July 28 the camp was called together today where the City should be built. After a number had spoken on

the subject of a vote was called for unanimously agreed that this was the spot. After that President Young said the he knew that this is the place. He knew it as soon as he come in sight of it and he had seen this very spot before. He then gave us an idea how the city was to be built and the order of things. That the Law of God was to be kept strictly and that we should form connections with the different tribes of the Indians and by that means they would become a delight-some people and could be taught the principals of salvation and be prepared for things to come. I will remark over thing in this place it had been my desire for a long time before we got to this place that it might so happen that we might get through in time so that a meeting might be held and arrangements entered into in regard to our location on the day that I should be fifty years old it took place on that evening. It was advised that we should a fort to live in for the present that we might not be surprised by the Indians. The plan was that it should be made of sun-dried brick enclosing 40 rods square 10 ft high and that to form the back side of the houses, and to have one large gate on each side of the square accordingly all hands was soon at work, some at the wall & some at the farming. I presume that a colony was never settled under so many disadvantages as this. The appearance of the country was truly forbidding. The face of the earth had the appearance of a barren desert. No grass only on the streams or on low land, nothing green on the remainder. The mountaineers said that grain would not grow here for they had tried it and every appearance went to prove the fact. All we had was in our wagons; our tools for farming, our seed, our clothing, our provisions to last till we could raise, if that ever was and in fact, our all; out of the reach of commerce and one thousand miles from any settlement on the east rendered the hope of assistance out of the question, no odds what our wants might be. We must depend on God and do the best we could, feeling however, that the mob would not be likely to disturb us for a few years at least. So we took courage and went to work. All hands soon sent to work. Work--some at farming, and some on the walls of the fort. About this time a part of the Mormon battalion arrived which gave us much Joy. It was deemed advisable to send back as many teams to winter quarters as could be spared to help others on the next spring--accordingly as soon as the teams

had time to recuperate a little the ox teams started back. Lyman Curtis went with my teams which left me without any. I had not provision to last me more than six or eight days, because we had to feed it to the team on the journey to keep them from starving - and but little in the camp, and more than one thousand miles from any settlement, but Bro Kimball advised me to stay which I was willing to do for to go back seemed like going to the land of sorrow and death. About two weeks after Bro Young, Kimball and others started back with horse teams to get their families and assist in getting the remainder of the church started. Taking out so many reduced our numbers to a few, however we drove business to the best advantage that we could soon expecting a company to arrive of as we had supposed about 100 families from winter quarters and I was anxious for their arrival for my son Ammi was with them. My provisions was soon gone. However Br Roundey have gone back and left his flour & meal &c with me said if his family was not on the way he should go on & in such case I could use his bread stuff. So but when mine was gone and I could get no other used some of his. He however met his family and came back.

September 20, 1847

Monday, September 20 - The camp began to arrive but instead of being 100 families there was rising of 660 wagons with about [blank space] families and many of the teams was drove by women and children, the men being either dead or in the army. The camp had lost very many cattle by death and straying. Only 2 or 3 deaths had taken place in this large camp during a long and tedious journey with all its exposures old mut- [----] [-----] from age and infirmity died in a day or two after his arrival. About the middle of September we had a frost which injured our crops, and soon after they were all destroyed by the cattle not being fenced or well guarded.

September 30, 1847

Thursday, September 30 - I went to meet the camp that Ammi was in and met him about eight miles from our camp. Our meeting was a scene of Joy being in a land far from any of our connections and it being the first time that we had met for more than two years, in a few days the whole camp got in, which made a large show. I had until this time indulged a hope that the company of ten to which I belonged in winter quarters would have sent me some provision, but I found they did not and every visible prospect of substance was cut off. The buckwheat & turnips being gone which was my main dependence and the camp only fetching for themselves and some very scant at that, and out of reach of any help. Yet I know I have stayed according to council and I knew there was a God in Israel, and I knew that I was in his si[-]er and I further knew that he had said that it was his business to provide for his saints in these last days so I resigned myself into his hands and my mind was composed. We now found our fort which contained about 160 rooms would not hold more than about one fourth of the people. It being late for making dried brick the most of the people got timber for buildings and enlarged the fort on the north and south making from north to south about 160 [-] and forty rods from east to west. Br Newman a carpenter by trade and about 53 years old being like myself in destitute circumstances went to work for Br Ludington for his board a week or more till he made his door & window frame and bedsteads. Br Lerenso Young proposed boarding him on the same time to do some work for pine which he did. I thought it rather a hard case. I went to work making door & window frames and in return got a little provisions & work on my house. I got into hour[-]my shop in the latter part of November. I being without a family lived alone. A High Council was organized soon after the camp arrived and I have the honor of being one of its number. The fore part of November we sent a company to California to get skanig wheat and other seed and caws and make such trades for and in the name of this people as opportunity would permit a little before and about this time more of the Battalion arrived from California who were destitute of means to subsist upon which made our case look still more gloomy. winter had now commenced and a long time must lapse before we could expect to gather our bread from the field. A number of of the soldiers started

back whose families were at winter quarters. Our main dependance was the cattle to live on and many had been sent back and the remainder were mostly poor which was very poor eating about these days. A few Indian came and camped near us for the winter. They live mostly on grass seeds & roots and wolf meat and we found they used the large thistle root. We got some and I had only to regret that I could not get enough, for they were good, they tasted when raw or cooked very much like a parsnip and were very healthy. I have as yet had all the work that I can do and get some provision. I have to eat with care and sparingly and some times when I have eaten I know not where the next bite is coming from yet the Lord had opened the way for my support from time to time that I yet survive and I believe he will protect and preserve me if I survive him honestly and faithfully.

January 2, 1848

Sunday, January 2 - Being without the first president it seam to give the people a chance to shout what was in them and it having cost a good deal to filch the provision so far many appeared to be disposed to make the necessity of the destitute their opportunity and sold wheat for ten dollars per bushel, and corn for seven [-] bushel. I discovered that if that principle was not checked would prove our destruction. I accordingly talked with father Smith (the President of this stake) on the subject and recommended that prices should be set by the council on provision and labor for some would charge one dollar per day fore one yoke of oxen and wagon to haul wood or the like. At first I was opposed for it was feared that if the price on provision should be struck down that those that had it would not part with it, but I argued that it would work different. That when such men found that they could not get fifteen or twenty dollars for a bushel of grain they would let it go for a fair price and so it proved. For we appointed a committee to draft a bill of prices who set wheat at five dollars per bushel. Corn for 4 oxen & wagon 67 cents per day and other things accordingly, some few were much displeased but it changed the drift of things much for the better, a good many were at all times, apparently willing to do all they could to help the destitute

and do right in all things and under all circumstances I should have been glad if in justice I could have remained silent in regard to stealing and dissension but notwithstanding all that we as a people have suffered because of such things, and notwithstanding we have been obliged to remove far from the[-] land of our choice and our friends and sacrifice nearly all we had to find a place of rest and safety. Yet the same spinne made itself manifest soon after we got into this valley several were convicted of stealing and fined four fold the value they stole, and a spirit of apostasy commenced and made great progress, many expressed a great dislike to the country and made many hard expressions against the authorities in the church. Many expressed their determination to go to California at all hazards. The Council took it into consideration and concluded if they went they would raise a spirit of prosecution in that country which would be poured on us at some future period we accordingly post a law that none of that class should be permitted to go until the Presidency should return next summer, but some notwithstanding that, would and did start in December leaving their families behind for the present. The marshal was sent for them and fetch them back. They went to the President of the stake father John Smith and got his consent to go and they started on again I must acknowledge I thought it was bad policy but it was not for me to judge it seem to give them power over the decisions of the council and the remainder made such threats as their evil hearts dictated and the spirit gained ground fast. I thought we had better not made any laws than to suffer it disregarded after it was made. A part of our duty in this would is to bring the Indian from their benighted situation and raise them as a branch of the house of Israel to a knowledge of the true and living God and establish them in the truth of the gospel of Christ. In this place we find a place and people to commence with. They have not been raised with sectarian impositions, nor were they but a little above the level of the [-----] creation in regard to intelligence They live or rather meanly exist in small bands or companies, dividing off from time to time according to circumstances and always at war with each other, They have no particular abiding place, but roam from place to place as circumstances may dictate and live when stopping for any length of time in lodges made of small poles stuck into the

ground partnered at the top and covered with grass or weeds. They are all the time in fear of there neighboring bands who each in there turn will kill his enemy at every opportunity-- They have no knowledge of obtaining a living only by hunting (in which case they are no danger) which is mostly done with bow and arrow, and by digging roots of various kinds, and eating crickets, which are very large and plenty in all this mountain country. As it regards clothing it can a hardly be said they have any. It consists mostly of skins which are the most tattered and filthy that can be imagined -- And finally they are the most filthy, degraded and miserable beings that perhaps that ever assumed the shape of human beings. When I reflect and consider that they are of the house of Israel, of the stock of Jacob, and thy children of the covenant seed, unto whom belongs the priesthood and the oracles of God. When I see the situation which they are now in, and realize what they must be brought to by the Church of Jesus Christ. I say to myself O Lord who is able to all this. But the decree has gone forth and it must be accomplished, and it will be marvelous not only to us but to generations yet to come

March 1848

The winter had been very mild with but little snow in the valley, cattle lived well by grazing. The large wolves killed many of our oxen and cows and the Indians who were camped near the Utah Lake drove off and killed many which was a great loss in our destitute circumstances. A spirit of rebellion against the laws of the place caused uneasiness and trouble to those who would do right. Provision became scarce indeed and some people were glad to get the entrails and pates &c to subsist on while some few had plenty, but the most of the people had very scant to sustain them until something could be raised.

March 12, 1848

Sunday, March 12 - A company of 7 men and [blank space] horses and mules started for winter quarters with the mail, Ammi was one of

them. My parting My feelings on parting with him is more sense-fully felt that expressed. Only parents can tell the feeling of the bosom when parting with a child who is about to launch out on a journey of more than one thousand miles through a mountainous and desert country in the dead of winter with only two places of white people on the whole distance; namely Fort Bridger and Fort John, the remainder a wild waste almost entirely destitute of timber and only visited by emigrants passing in the summer season, or by the wandering tribes of Indians (who are ready to rob the traveler) or the wild beasts who roam over the land. The high cold mountains and the deep ravines filled with snow with the river without bridges or boats The probability of heavy storm, and the liability of losing the trail because of the snow together with all the dangers and exposures of the journey was well calculated to draw a tear from a fathers eye and a prayer to Almighty God for the preservation of a child and the little company to which he belonged. In this view of thing I looked on him as he took his leave of the place and cantered off on his gray steed at about 12 o'clock (stopped to meet his little company who had on business about one mile off. O Lord I ask the in the name of Jesus to bless and preserve that little band and grant them a safe return to this valley next season with many hundreds of the next season with many hundreds of the saints to build up this place to the honor of thy great name I now feel lonesome altho in the midst of friends yet with the exception of him none of my kindred blood runs in the veins of any one within one thousand miles of this place. But these hours will soon be gone and I trust that my wearied soul will be at rest in the Paradise of of God, for the gray hairs that crowns my head admonishes me that I must soon lay down this mortal body and I be gathered with the fathers, and when I shall have accomplished the business that I came to this world to perform it matters not to me how soon I go to rest with those that have finished there work in [-----] and are now enjoying the welcome of well done though faithful servant enter though into the joy of thy Lord. It was grievous to my son to leave me in such destitute circumstances but it was out of his power to help me.

March 14, 1848

Tuesday, March 14 - Br Robert Pierce invited me to board with him which I did gladly the conditions was not agreed on yet to live was the first object at this time.

March 24, 1848

Friday, March 24 - This morning a snow storm commenced from the north. It was not very cold. Much of the snow thawed as it fell yet it lay 6 or 8 inches deep.

March 25, 1848

Saturday, March 25 - The council repealed the price law finding that some would take the advantage of any Law, while others only wanted to know what was duty and they would do it. And it was necessary that all men should have a chance to s[-] what they were find p[-]ril up to this time but few complaints was entered against Law breakers because but few was willing to have the ill will of his neighbor and for that reason I have for a long time urged the necessity of appointing men to that office whose duty it should be to attend to all such matters and on this day it finally carried some men was appointed to that office.

April 20, 1848

Thursday, April 20 - Special counsel was called to again take into consideration the situation of the destitute people for many had noting to eat. It was said that some would would take dried hides and cook them to eat, and the calls on the counsel and Bishops many and pressing, some that could spare a little was unwilling to because of the imprudence of some that was destitute, for some had not started from winter quarters with as much as they directed to, some traded off some to the Indians for buffalo robes and other articles, some would have feasts and parties, and some was very wasteful, while some of the Battalion and Pioneers was left destitute from necessity, and the few that had a little to spare felt some what

particular who helped them eat what they had. Yet it would not do to let any store any remained to eat. It was finally decided that Bishops Lewis and Hunter receive all the property that those of property that those that made application had that was not strictly necessary for them immediate use and punches provisions with it for them, And if that plan should prove insufficient then other means must be resorted to, and by this means some provisions was obtained. The storm above alluded to continued for about one week either in rain or snow. Our houses being flat roofs and covered with poles and mud was but a poor shelter in a long storm, they soon began to leak and that to badly, on the 20 night of the storm the most of the people have to set up all night and shelter themselves and children the best way they could. Next morning the beds and other things was perfectly wet through and the ground floors was a bed of mud, numbers of the adobe or son dried brick houses on the lowland gave way and became useless. Yet but very little murmuring was heard in the camp. The weather soon became warm and the mud dried away. April 8 in the morning a heavy snow storm commenced from the north, it snowed nearly all day tho not cold. It soon cleared off warm.

April 19, 1848

On Wednesday, April 19 - Br Pierce and myself started for the Utah Lake to see the country and get some fish---In passing through the farming country south all seemed to be hurry and industry preparing for summer crops. The south end of the valley is not fertile, we found the most of the Utah valley as far up as Spanish Fork and Provo to be rather barren, about the fork the soil looks good. Our carriage turned over twice, the first time I lamed my foot badly, the next time was in a creek, and I got very wet and took a bad cold. We got back the third day - on the same day that we went Br Grant, Carington, and four others took a small boat made for that [-----] and started down Jordan for the Salt Lake on an exploring campaign

A few days before I commenced boarding with Br Pierce I had obtained some flour. At that time I had about 20lb left which I intended to have kept so that if I had been thrown on my own

resources again before harvest that I might have that much to depend on but when I saw the situation of the destitute I concluded let it go and trust the Lord for myself. I could have got 25 cents per lb, but I would not do it but let it go for ten cent per lb in labor believing I should do better in the final outcome than I should to take the advantage of the hard times. The company that went to the Salt Lake before alluded to returned after having been gone about six days and reported no timber of any amount on the Islands. No fish in the Lake. The deepest they found was 13ft but but mostly very shoal and had to drag the boat much for want of sufficient depth of water. About the 20th of this month the Indians that had spent this winter near us removed the most of them to an Island in the Lake. They fetch from that place many roots that they called sagers which they exchanged for clothing, beef, beans &c. The roots are about the size of a hickory nut and are good eating somewhat like a potato up to this time.

April 29, 1848

Sunday, April 29 - We have had a sufficiency of rain to keep the ground moist and crops look well. Much anxiety was felt for the returnees of the company that went to California they having been six weeks ago and no word from them yet.

May 8, 1848

Monday, May 8 - This day we had a snow storm from the first to the tenth of May we had frosty mornings and on the fourth we had snow, on the 10th a part of the company got back from California, the remainder arrived with the cattle about ten days after. They had a hard time. They had to kill and eat some of their horses before they got there. They bought 200 cows mostly on credit for the church and gave obligation for \$930.00 payable in one year from date. They lost rising of one half before they got to this place. Many of their horses was killed by the Indians which prevented getting many of the packs

through and consequently but little seed was got through to this place.

May 18, 1848

Thursday, May 18 - The teams commenced to start back to meet the emigration. They started at different times as they could get ready. About this time the crickets coming down from the mountains on the grain and cut much of it to the ground.

May 21, 1848

Sunday, May 21 & Monday 22 we had a little frost.

May 28, 1848

Sunday, May 28 - This morning the frost had killed nearly all the beans and vines and corn but with the destruction made by the crickets cast rather a gloomy appearance on future prospects yet the Lord said that it is his business to provide for his saints in these last days and he will do it in his own way. In the latter part of winter I was requested to undertake making saddle as they were much wanted. I did so, and soon got so that I could make good ones and could sell them as fast as I could make them at a fair price, and it was easier for me than most of other labor.

June 3, 1848

Saturday, June 3 - In consequence of provision getting sience with Br Pierce and the prospect of early crops being cut off I left his house and commenced living by myself again. I got a little beef and for some time lived on beef and then at length I got the use of a cow of Br Love which gave about three quarts of milk per day. That with was my main living. I sometimes could get a little beef, and sometimes a little [-]at 2 twenty cents per pound. This was new

cheese, having no bread it made it rather scant living, yet some in the camp was worse off than I was.

About the eighth Capt C.C. Carice, with 22 of his arrived from California which was a part of the battalion sent to that place. We had frost at different times up to the middle of June. About one week after the crickets had been taking our crops badly the Lord sent thousands of sea gulls who destroyed them in a marvelous manner, yet they kept coming and it appeared some times that we should raise nothing. Hundred of acres of grain was destroyed by them yet the prospect was that we should raise enough to sustain us till another harvest. I had six acres put in which was all destroyed.

July 1, 1848

Saturday, July 1 - We began to have some green peas and to cut some wheat and it looked as tho we should all soon have bread again. Notwithstanding the extreme scarcity some few at this time had some bread stuff to spare. Br [-] at this time sold flour at 20 cents per pound for cash but would not lend it. Br [-] loaned one $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of corn to Br J Smith and for one bushel of wheat after harvest which was already commencing. Br Love, Cherrey & some others felt out as long as they had any on a christian principal. These were days well calculated to draw out mens dispositions. My heart has been grieved many times to see so many practicing evil, such as taking the advantage of others necessities and breaking the sabbath &c and nothing but a rigorous application of the Law could keep them within bounds. Quarreling & taking the name of god in vain was common with many which thing was grievous and sometimes smart contention would take place among mere of high ostaining yet the most of the people intended to do right all the time.

By the middle of this month we began to have considerable bread again which was received with much joy by those that had been without for some months.

July 22, 1848

Saturday, July 22 - This day makes out one year since we got to this valley and I have for a chance to see and feel much. Perhaps there was never time and circumstances better calculated to draw from man his natural disposition than that of the last year past among us. If a man was inclined to be honest or dishonest, liberal or covetous, obedient or disobedient to the Law, or whatever he was in his heart he showed it by his acts openly. We are waiting with almost painful anxiety to receive news from our brethren and friends from the east but as yet all is silent.

July 28, 1848

Friday, July 28 - This day I am fifty one years old. I find myself in a land far from the land that gave me birth and far from the first drop of kindred [-] yet I am surrounded by many of the best of friends and faithful brethren, Time passes swiftly on and brings its attendant train of joys and sorrows. Where another year will find me the Lord only knows nether am I anxious if I also found doing his will. As far as the joys of this world is concerned life can hardly be called a blessing but if spent in the service of God it will secure to us joys that fadeth not away eternal in the heavens. Now O My Father who art in heaven I ask thee in the name of Jesus his thy church & people with thy holey spirit that they may be preserved from all evil and be blessed in building up thy Kingdom on the earth according to thy will and I ask the to bless my friends and family connection as thou seeist they need that they may be saved in thy kingdom and I pray that thou wilt preserve my life to finish the work that I came here to perform. I do not ask for the [-----] on [-----] ens of this world, but I ask for wisdom to do thy will and thy spirit to direct me at all times, and I pray that I may be enabled to do much good on the earth in assisting to build up thy kingdom and when I shall have completed my mission on this earth. I pray that my last days may be among my friends and connection and that my senses may remain bright that I may administer words of consolation to them as I bid adieu to this life these and all other needed blessing. I ask in the name of Jesus Amen August 1848

August 6, 1848

Sunday, August 6 - At about 10 a.m. messengers arrived from the east bringing letters and documents from the camp on the road. This gave great joy to all the saints. We expect the camp will arrive about the middle of September. We learned that the Saints in the east have been highly blessed for the year past, but for myself I got no word from any of my people which for a time gave me rather gloomy feelings, but I learned that another camp of about 350 wagons would start the first of July and Jesprot they will be with them. The first camp started the first of June.

August 10, 1848

Thursday, August 12 - This day was set about to have a harvest feast. We had a large and commodious rey erected for that and other purposes. Each one fetch provision according to what he had and many hundred partook of a fine dinner of a great variety of victuals well got up of the fruit of the valley which surpassed all expectation for beyond any that I supposed was possible. We had a tall Lebeny pole raised with a flag and blow that was bring one large bundle of wheat, then one of barley, then one of oats. All was raised amid the roaring of cannon and the hosannas of the saints --- with instrumental and [-----] [-----] far flag was white unstained by any political figure or emblem, and floated proudly in a healthy and peaceful atmosphere. The breeze gently drifting from the northwest. After singing, prayer and appropriate speeches, and dinner being over. the bowery was cleaned in the center of tables and benches &c a dance was commenced of about fifty couple at a time and continued the remainder of the day. They gray headed, the middle aged and the youth participated in it together, and it was finally a day of Joy & rejoicing and will long be remembered by all that was present.

Many teams were sent back to assist the company about the fifth of September. Some few arrived in the valley and much anxiety was felt for the arrival of the whole camp that friends and connection might

again embrace each other who had for a long time been [----]ed. The prospect of subsistence for the coming winter looks rather gloomy for me as I have neither meat or milk and corn alone. I know would be rather dry living I knew of [-----] get s[-----] hunger it would help about living. I tried to purchase but could not they would fetch four dollars per bushel in good pay so I concluded to leave my shop and go and get some myself accordingly. Br Huntington and his son and myself loaded a pack horse each with green corn to trade to the Indians for berries. We expected to find them some 25 miles off. We about noon went about ten miles and camped A negro man who had been trading in the mountain for some years past and who had been with us in the valley for a few weeks had agreed to go with us, but he not being quite ready we started on next morning, we found that he had gone by us in the night. We concluded that he intended to slip in ahead of us and get all the trade. We pushed on and when we came to the Indian camp they had all left. We saw the Negros horses standing a little off in the tall grass and we supposed that he was sleeping near them after having traveled all night. We see that he had failed in his attempt and being willing he should sleep as long as he chose we passed on and left him feeling a little practical. When we got to the Indian camp and buy them out all empty. Wel tel them negro is on the way with good green corn a plenty. We took the Indian trail and followed it over steep and high hills through deep gulfs till we struck the [-----] we found they had camped in that place the night previous. We took the trail again and followed it up the east fork of the river, for want of a convenient passage on the bottom which was now narrow and bushy the trail ascended the side hill. It would been a frightful looking place to a man that had never traveled among the hills. The side hill was so steep that it would not seem possible for any animal to stand on it, yet the Indians and their horses are acquainted with such hill and can travel them with apparent ease and safety. The track in such places is only wide enough for one [-----] step, and in this place it is some part of the way I should think 100 feet [----] to the bottom, and so steep one [---] step might throw a man or horse to the bottom without a possible chance for to escape from destruction.

We traveled in hopes of overtaking the Indians till night came on. the golden beams of the sun had left the tall peaks of the mountains and the full moon beam to clame the right to shed [-----] his silvery rays to illuminate the mountains for a few [-----] when on a sudden we saw before us at a distance a smoke rising from the Indian camp fire. We were received by them with tokens of friendship. The chief took us in to his camp and treated us well, next morning we traded our corn for berries. We then started back and they started over the mountains to some other place. We reached home after having been gone four days. The journey tho hard was interesting to me - for the first time in my life I tried the flavor of a broiled hawk on our journey back and found it as fine eating as I ever tasted in my life.

September 20, 1848

Wednesday, September 20 - Br B Young with a company arrived.

September 24, 1848

Sunday, September 24 - Br Young addressed the saints in the valley and the joy that was felt was past expression. On this day Br Kimball arrived with a company.

October 12, 1848

Thursday, October 12 - With a company and with him came some of the Curtis family. My daughter Aurelia married one one of them, but neither he or any of my family came because they could not get ready this season but intend to come next year I should have stated that soon after I left Br Pierces in the summer by an invitation from Br Abbot I went to board with him. His family consisted of himself his wife and daughter woman gran, and a boy They are very fine people and always desire to do good, but they were now poor [-]. We joined our effort to get means together to live on, but for a long time the last of our living was porridge to drink, with now, and then a pancake and a little beef. After harvest we began to live better.

After the arrival of the Curtis' I took them in to my shop until they could better situate themselves. In a few weeks the family got them small houses and I concluded to have Mother Curtis and her young daughter stop with me for the season as it would accommodate her with a house and me with a cook and to do my housework and by so doing I did not have to live alone as I did last winter &c. The brethren that belonged to the Battalion that stopped in California till this season had the most of them obtained in a short time a number of hundred dollars worth of gold which they had taken from the mines which they had found in that country. This caused many to start from the valley to the mines for gold country to council.

October 19, 1848

Thursday, October 19 - About [blank space] souls arrived in the valley this season. Colonel Willard Richards and company was the last that arrived

November 29, 1848

Wednesday, November 29 - Mail arrived from Winter Quarters which brought good news from the saints in east, but to my sorrow I did not get any letter from any of my people. I suppose they did not know the opportunity. We commenced in the fall to build a council hall, but the winter set in about first of December and we had to abandon the work till the weather got warmer.

Having been in a scattered situation for a long time many of the peoples and especially the young got into rather a loose way of living and were much inclined to dancing and other amusements which was calculated to lead the mind astray. On the suggestion of Br. Young all this laws that had been made in the valley was repealed or I think on the 24th of September on the sabbath after, and after that time the wicked should stand in danger of the council. It was advised that the reins should be let loose for a while that people might act out what was in them. Seeing the situations of the minds of the people the authorities of the church commenced using their influence to

bring about a reformation in the mind of both old and young. Meetings were got up all through the town to be held in the evening and on the sabbath in any room that could be got for that purpose. And at this time we see that it is beginning to have its desired effect in some degree.

January 10, 1849

Wednesday, January 10 - A sufficiency of grain was raised in the valley to supply the inhabitants till the next harvest, yet for want of proper calculations the cattle and other things destroyed so much that we fear a great scarcity before harvest. Many houses has been built since last summer yet many have to spend the winter in tents and wagons for the want of houses. The winter has been much harder since it it commenced than it was last winter which makes many sick of the country and in tempting to some other country next season.

The fact is such people have not faith in God nor confidence in the priesthood or they would know that the Lord did not bring us to this place to be destroyed unless we should bring it on ourselves by our own sins and follies. But I am willing they should go for they will be of no use to us or any other good people, and if any goes I hope the thieves will compose a part of the company, for we have them among us and they will not repent, and they annoy us continually and they are cunning and experienced. in their apporations. But ear long they will be detected and swept away and we shall be a righteous people. Winter broke in March and spring came on in all its beauties. By this time a large camp of families started for the gold mines as was expected and many rebellious spirits left us .The dust that was fetched is last fall was needed for circulation but was unhandy as it was The plan was hit on to put it into the hands of B Young & H C Kimhen and for them issue notes to the amount of the dust so deposited. It pleased the most of the people well but some feared that some undue advantage would be taken of it. The first paper was given out the 2nd of Jan 1849. Before the approach of spring some people was out of bread stuff and times again begun to

look dark as to a living till harvest. Many of those that had it held on to it, while others would impart to the last. I had enough for my one use but by taking in two and giving to the destitute I have not enough to last me till with in six weeks of harvest altho we have some of the best people in the valley that can be found in the world. Yet we have some of another class. A spirit of speculation seems to be a part of some peoples existence. I will mention a case or two. A man by the name of H Hide had a quantity of tobacco that cost him about ten cents a plug in the states and because it was scarce and some people could not do well without it he sold it for two dollars per plug. Another man, by the name of [---] sold considerable for fifty cents a cha[-] Sister [---] sold hair combs for fifty cents that could be got in the states for five cents. I was informed that L. Young sold potatoes this spring for one dollar per quart, while B Young said that he had nothing to sell but as long as he had any thing to spare he would give it away and many others did the same. I am glad that in the end people will receive according minit. Through the course of the winter some of the Indians would steal and kill our cattle. We frequently told them if they did so we would kill them but they did not believe it. And when we found they would not stop it we sent about thirty men to find them. They started March 1 - They went about 60 miles and found them in a very secure place in the bank of a creek in the edge of the mountain on the east side of the Utah valley. Our men tried to get them to come out and see them but they would not but made ready for fighting. The skirmish soon commenced the two parties being within a few rods of each other there was only five or six of the Indians besides the squaws and children our people was careful to hit only the men. The Indians were all killed but one young man and the squaws forced him to surrender and thus saved his life. None of our men was hurt. They found quite a number of beef hides in and about the camp - our men got home on the 6th. We had intended to have started the mail back in March, but the snow was so deep in the mountains that they could not get through, They finally started an the 14th of April the snow was yet very deep in the canyons. I got me a lot of Br Kimball in block number 100 with a adobe house on it of about 14ft by 16ft without roof or floor and moved into it on the 16th.

April 20, 1849

Friday, April 20 1849. It is now a warm fine growing season. It was considered wisdom to establish a settlement in the Utah valley and if possible to instruct the few Indians that lived at that place in the art of agriculture. Accordingly about the first of April about thirty men with quite a number of families started for that place a distance of about sixty miles and a fine country, but when they got to the place the Indians appeared to be willing for them to live there and raise grain and cattle &c but they chose hunt and fish and swap for what bread they wanted rather than to work.

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